



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

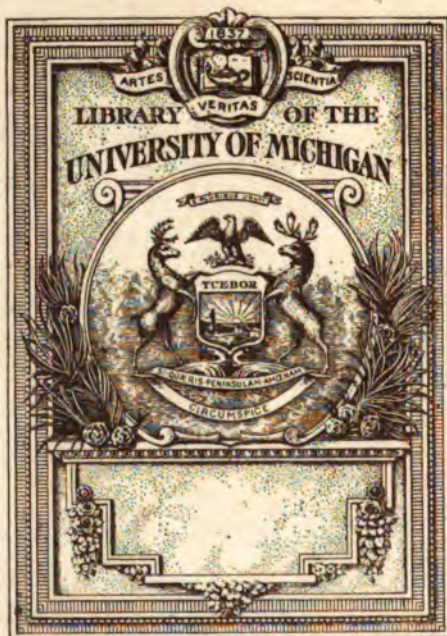
Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>



THIS BOOK
FORMS PART OF THE
ORIGINAL LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
BOUGHT IN EUROPE
1838 TO 1839
BY
ASA GRAY

DA
32
.B55

2-197

A CHRONOLOGICAL ABRIDGMENT
OF
The History
OF
GREAT BRITAIN,
FROM THE FIRST INVASION OF THE ROMANS
TO THE YEAR 1763.

WITH
GENEALOGICAL AND POLITICAL TABLES.

DEDICATED WITH PERMISSION TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCE REGENT.

BY
ANT. FR. BERTRAND DE MOLEVILLE,
LATE MINISTER AND SECRETARY OF STATE IN FRANCE UNDER THE
REIGN OF LOUIS XVI.

Non criticorum more, in laude et censura tempus teratur,
sed planè historicè res ipsæ narrentur, judicium parcius inter-
ponatur.
BACON. DE AUGM. LIB. II. c. 4.

VOLUME IV.

London :

PUBLISHED BY T. CADELL AND W. DAVIES, STRAND,
AND W. MILLER, ALBEMARLE-STREET ;
AND MAY ALSO BE HAD BY THE SUBSCRIBERS,
OF THE AUTHOR, 38, BREWER-STREET,
AND OF D. N. SHURY, PRINTER, 7, BERWICK STREET, SOHO.

1812.

A

CHRONOLOGICAL ABRIDGMENT

OF THE

HISTORY

OF

GREAT BRITAIN.

WILLIAM III. continued.

QUEEN MARY's death did not interrupt the course of parliamentary business. The Lancashire plot, which in the preceding summer had been laid before the commons, was revived early in the present session. One Lunt, a man of a suspicious character, who had once been a day-labourer at Highgate, had given information, June 15th, that he had delivered commissions from king James to several gentlemen in Lancashire and Cheshire; that at their expense he had bought arms, enlisted men, and gone twice over to France to receive the late king's commands concerning the intended insurrection; and that one Wilson, who had assisted him in delivering the commissions, was privy to the circumstances of the plot. The supposed conspirators were seized and sent to Manchester to take their trials on the evidence of Lunt and Wilson. Lunt being ordered

VOL. IV.

B

in court to point at the several prisoners, made some mistake, which created a violent suspicion of perjury; and at the instant one Taffe declared publicly that the whole was nothing but a villanous contrivance fabricated between himself and Lunt. The king's council stopped all, the prisoners were acquitted, and the popular clamour became so loud in their favour, that the ministers found it necessary to commit the witnesses to prison, and order them to be prosecuted.

At the opening of the session, the Lancashire gentlemen were induced to lay before the parliament their grievances respecting this affair; but the issue of their complaint did not answer their expectations. The commons voted that there had been sufficient grounds for the prosecution and trial of the conspirators at Manchester, and that a dangerous plot had been carried on against the king and government. The witnesses were, however, tried and found guilty of perjury at the Lancaster assizes. They were afterwards indicted for a conspiracy against the lives and estates of the accused gentlemen, but the prosecution was dropped, and Lunt and Wilson were discharged.

The most remarkable business in this session was the discovery of flagrant abuses, acts of corruption, bribery, and venality which had crept into the army, the city, the East-India company, and even into the court and the parliament; agents of regiments neglecting to pay the subsistence money they had received from the officers and soldiers, and exacting it in their quarters from the inhabitants on pain of military execution; a member of the house, secretary to the treasury, receiving a bribe to obtain the king's bounty, and employed, together with the speaker Trevor, as the court agent for securing a majority in the house of commons, were the first offences discovered by the enquiry which

took place on this occasion. The attempts, at first unsuccessful, of the city of London to carry the orphans' bill into a law, and the facility with which it had been lately passed, created suspicions of corrupt practices respecting it. A committee was appointed to inspect the chamberlain's books, and several sums of money appeared to have been expended in gaining votes in parliament. The corruption was traced to the speaker, who had received 1000 guineas, and to Mr. Hungerford, chairman of the grand committee; both were expelled from the house.

One discovery paving the way for another, the committee for inspecting the East-India company's books, found that in the year 1693, when the charter was obtained, the sums granted for secret services amounted to 170,000*l.* and it was generally believed that a great part of it had been distributed among the members of the house of commons. Sir Thomas Cooke, the governor of the company, being examined respecting the distribution of that sum, refused in the house of commons to give any account of it; but being brought to the bar of the upper house according to his petition, he declared that he was ready to make a full discovery, in case he might be favoured with an indemnifying vote to secure him against all prosecutions, which being granted, he declared, that whereas both king Charles and king James had obliged the company to make them a yearly present of 10,000*l.*; the present king had received it but once, and had refused a present of 50,000*l.* offered to him by the company if he would grant them a new charter; but strong presumptions might be deduced from his account, that the marquis of Caermarthen, now duke of Leeds, had received on this occasion a present of 5000 guineas, and sent them back to sir Thomas Cooke the morning before he was to make

his confession, and the fact appeared sufficiently proved to induce the commons to vote an impeachment against him. Though in his answer to the articles of it he denied his having received the money, the sudden disappearing of his servant, whose testimony only could have cleared the point, confirmed the suspicions against the duke, and the prosecution was postponed to the next session ; but an act of grace came in at the end of this, with an-exception indeed as to corruption ; yet this whole discovery was let fall, on account it was believed of the great number of offenders of all sides concerned in it ; for, by a common consent it was never revived.

In the midst of these deliberations the king came to the house, May 13th, when he signified his intention of going abroad, and entrusting with the administration of affairs in his absence, persons of known care and fidelity. He then prorogued the parliament. The regency was composed of the archbishop of Canterbury, Somers, lord keeper of the great seal ; the earl of Pembroke, lord privy seal ; the duke of Devonshire, lord steward of the household ; the duke of Shrewsbury, secretary of state ; the earl of Dorset, lord chamberlain ; and lord Godolphin, first commissioner of the treasury.

The coin of the kingdom being greatly diminished and adulterated, an act was passed in this session containing severer penalties against clippers ; but this produced no good effect, the value of money sunk in the exchange to such a degree, that a guinea was reckoned adequate to thirty shillings, and this public disgrace lowered the credit of the funds and of the government. The nation was alarmed by the circulation of fictitious wealth instead of gold and silver, such as bank-bills, exchequer tallies, and government securities. The malcontents took this

opportunity to exclaim against the bank, and even attempted to shake the credit of it in parliament; but their endeavours proved abortive, the monied interest preponderated in both houses.

William arrived in Holland in the middle of May, and took the field on the 6th of June, at the head of an army much superior to that of the French, who, besides their inferiority in numbers, had lost the best of their generals by the death of the *mareschal Luxembourg*, who was succeeded by *Villeroi* in the command of the army. In order to conceal his real plan for the campaign, William amused the enemy by several feints and movements until his preparations were quite completed. When he had succeeded in making every necessary disposition for attacking *Namur*, for covering the siege, and forming an army to observe the motions of the enemy on the maritime side of *Flanders*, he caused the place to be invested by the elector of *Bavaria*, with his own troops, the forces of the German princes, and a body of cavalry; while, at the head of the main army, he took himself a strong position behind the *Mehaigne*, in a condition to pass that river, and, if necessary, to support the siege.

In the mean time, the king having thought fit to call a parliament in *Scotland*, to provide new subsidies for the war, the session was opened by the *marquis of Tweedale*, his majesty's commissioner. To soften the opposition to the crown, a commission was issued under the great seal, to examine witnesses upon the horrible massacre perpetrated at *Glenco* in 1692, as the memory of it still inflamed the passions of the whole nation. The principal circumstances of that act of barbarity are as follows:

The king had, by a proclamation, offered an indemnity to all the highlanders who had been in arms against him, upon their coming in to take the oaths, with a positive threatening of proceeding to

military execution against such as should not submit by the last day of December. On that day Macdonald of Glenco went to colonel Hill, governor of Fort William, at Inverlochie, and offered to take the oaths. But the colonel, being only a military man, could not or would not tender them, and Macdonald was forced to seek for some of the legal magistrates; but the snow was then fallen so high, that five or six days elapsed before he could come to a magistrate, and on the 6th of January, 1692, he took the oaths before sir Collin Campbell, sheriff deputy of Argyle. Sir John Dalrymple, afterwards earl of Stair, who attended king William as secretary of state for Scotland, took advantage of Macdonald's neglecting to take the oaths within the time prescribed, and induced the king to sign a warrant of military execution against him and his whole tribe. Campbell, a captain and two subalterns, with 120 men, were ordered to repair to Glenco, on the 1st of February, and in pursuance of Dalrymple's letters, they were urged to execute the warrant with the utmost rigour. Campbell being uncle to young Macdonald's wife, was friendly received by the father, and the men were treated in the houses of his tenants with free quarters and kind entertainment, and lived in good humour and familiarity with them during nearly two weeks. The officers, on the very night of the massacre, played at cards all the evening in Macdonald's house. In the night lieutenant Lindsey, with a party of soldiers, called in a friendly manner at his door, and was instantly admitted. Macdonald, as he was rising from his bed to receive his guest, was shot dead with two bullets. His wife had already put on her clothes, but she was stript naked by the soldiers; the slaughter now became general, neither age nor infirmity were spared, and nearly forty persons were massacred by the troops. Several who

fled to the mountains, perished by famine, and the inclemency of the season, which, however, secured the safety of the rest of the unfortunate tribe, as lieutenant-colonel Hamilton, who had the charge of the execution from Dalrymple, was on his march with 400 men, to occupy all the passes which led from the valley of Glenco, and was obliged to stop by the severity of the weather. He entered the valley the next day, laid all the houses in ashes, and carried away all the cattle and spoil, which were divided among the officers and soldiers.

A motion was now made, that the commissioners appointed to investigate the circumstances of these odious transactions, should exhibit an account of their proceedings; and their report laid before the parliament, stated that Macdonald of Glenco had been perfidiously murdered; that the king's instructions contained nothing to warrant the massacre; and that secretary Dalrymple had exceeded his orders. The parliament concurred with this report, and, proceeding upon this affair, ordered colonel Hill and lieutenant-colonel Hamilton to be called. The former appeared, was examined and acquitted; but the latter not appearing, was declared guilty of the murder of the Glenco men, and ordered to be apprehended. As to the other actors of these bloody scenes, an address was voted to the king, that he would give orders for their being sent home, to be prosecuted or not as his majesty should think fit; and that he would take into his princely consideration the case of the Glenco men.

This apparent resolution of his majesty to vindicate the honour of the government and the justice of the nation respecting the slaughter of Glenco, was not the only means employed by the government to gain the Scots; the marquis of Tweedale, expatiating in his speech on his majesty's care and concern for their welfare, promised in the king's

name, that if they would pass an act to establish a colony in Africa, America, or any where else, his majesty would indulge them with such rights and privileges as he had granted in like cases to the subjects of his other dominions. This promise alluded to a mercantile project of an extensive kind, framed for Scotland by Patterson, the same who had been the chief instrument in establishing the bank of England. His scheme was to establish a settlement upon the isthmus of Darien, so as to carry on a trade in the South-Sea, the Atlantic, and even as far as the East-Indies; vesting the company to be formed with an exclusive right, and an exemption for 21 years from all duties and impositions. The bait was greedily seized; the people lost their resentment in the flattering hopes of wealth; the parliament itself was all submission, and unanimously voted a supply of 1,440,000*l.* and 9000 men, to be raised early to recruit the Scottish regiments abroad, and an act for erecting a public bank at Edinburgh. Then the parliament was adjourned to the 7th of November.

In Ireland, sir Henry Capel, created a lord, and two other lord justices, carried on the government with a great partiality against the catholics, but without any material difficulty or opposition. He promised to the ministers that should he be appointed lord deputy, with powers to displace some men in office, he would carry every thing in a parliament. His proposal was accepted, and he easily succeeded in bringing the parliament to comply with all the demands and projects of the crown, though the chancellor endeavoured to raise a party against him, and thwarted all his measures; which gave occasion to a motion made in parliament to impeach the chancellor for sowing discord and division among his majesty's subjects; he was, however, voted clear of all imputation by a great ma-

jority; and at the end of the session the parliament sent over an address, in which they bore testimony to the mild and just administration of their lord deputy.

During these transactions the siege of Namur was prosecuted with great ardour, under the eye of king William. The trenches were opened July 11th, and the next day the batteries began to play with incredible fury. The town capitulated on the 13th of August, and the citadel on the 1st of September. In the interval, mareschal Villeroi having vainly endeavoured to compel the allies to raise the siege of Namur, bombarded Brussels, and undertook the siege of Dixmude, garrisoned by eight battalions of foot and a regiment of dragoons, commanded by major-general Ellenberg, who, in 36 hours after the trenches were opened surrendered himself and his troops prisoners of war. This shameful example was followed at Deynse by colonel O'Farrel. In the sequel they were both tried for their misbehaviour; Ellenberg suffered death, and O'Farrel was broke with infamy.

The reduction of Namur in the presence of a powerful French army, was the most brilliant of William's military exploits, and the energy of his reprisal or resentment against the enemy added to his reputation. The French, contrary to an express cartel, had detained the garrisons of Dixmude and Deynse. After the taking of Namur, the mareschal de Boufflers was arrested as a hostage, and sent prisoner to Maestricht, where he was detained till assurances were received that the imprisoned garrison should be sent back to the allies. The war languished, or rather a total inaction prevailed on the Upper Rhine. In Italy the campaign offered no other remarkable event than the surrender of Casal to the duke of Savoy, on condition that the place should be restored to the duke of Mantua,

its rightful sovereign; and that its fortifications, reckoned among the strongest in Europe, should be demolished at the expense of the allies. In Catalonia, the duke de Vendome dismantled Ostabric and Castelfollit, and returned to Palamos.

The English fleet was all the summer master of the Mediterranean. Another fleet in the Channel was ordered to bombard the French coasts, and did some execution at St. Malos and Granville, but failed in its attempts against Dunkirk and Calais. A squadron, commanded by the marquis of Caermarthen, son to the duke of Leeds, lay off the isles of Scilly, to secure the trade and convoy the merchant ships. One day, when he was out, he mistook a fleet of merchantmen for a French fleet, and fled with all his sails from the vessels which he ought to have defended.

The naval efforts of the English in the West-Indies, were attended with no success, and the commerce was so ill protected, that many vessels from Barbadoes were taken by the enemy, as well as five East-India ships valued at a million.

The king having settled with the states-general the plan of the succeeding campaign, returned to England, and arrived at Kensington October 21st. The people in London expressed their joy for his success and safe return, by loud acclamations, illuminations, and bonfires. On the same day he summoned a council, in which it was determined to convoke a new parliament, in hopes that the nation in good humour, would return such members only as were well affected to the government; whereas the present parliament might continue its unpleasant enquiries respecting corruption, bribes, and other grievances. Sunderland, in concert with the court of St. Germain, advised this measure. (*Stuart Papers*, 1696, *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. i. p. 504 to 545.). The parliament was therefore

dissolved by proclamation, and a new one summoned to meet on the 22d of November.

While the whole nation was proceeding on the elections, William endeavoured to improve to his advantage the present favourable disposition of the people, by a journey through some parts of the country; he honoured with his presence the diversions of Newmarket, visited several noblemen at their country houses, and made a solemn entry into Oxford, where a magnificent banquet was prepared for him at the university; but an anonymous letter being found in the street, importing that there was a design to poison his majesty, he refused to eat or drink, and retired immediately to Windsor, declaring as a reason for his short stay, and his not seeing the colleges, that this was a visit of kindness, not of curiosity, since he had seen the university before.

The whig interest generally prevailed in the elections. The parliament met on the appointed day; the king, in his speech from the throne, represented that the necessity of carrying on the war required supplies, at least as considerable for the service of this year, as those which had been granted in the last session, and had proved very deficient; he complained that the precarious condition of the civil list was such, that it would not be possible for him to subsist, unless that matter was taken into consideration. He took notice of the great difficulties arising from the bad state of the coin; he entreated them to use all possible dispatch not to give the enemy the opportunity of taking advantage of his absence.

Both houses, in their respective addresses, congratulated the king on the glorious success of his arms, and promised that they would support him against all his enemies, foreign and domestic, and effectually assist him in the prosecution of the present war. But considering the present critical juncture

of affairs was the most favourable circumstance for obtaining some important concessions from the crown, they brought in the so long contested bill for regulating trials in cases of high treason and misprision of treason. The courtiers were afraid of obstructing such a popular measure, and it was carried by the tories. The bill provided, that persons indicted for treason, or misprision of treason, should be furnished with a copy of the indictment five days before their trial, and indulged with council to plead in their defence; that no person should be indicted but upon the oaths of two lawful witnesses, swearing to overt-acts; that in two or more distinct treasons of divers kinds, alledged in one bill of indictment, one witness to one, and another witness to another, should not be deemed two witnesses; that the indictment should be found within three years after the offence committed, except in case of a design of an attempt to assassinate or poison the king; that the persons indicted should be supplied with the copies of the pannels of the jurors two days at least before the trial, and have process to compel their witnesses to appear; that no evidence should be admitted of any overt-act not expressly laid in the indictment; that this act should not extend to any impeachment or other proceedings in parliament, nor to any indictment for counterfeiting his majesty's coin, his great seal, privy seal, sign manual, or signet. The lords inserted a clause, enacting that a peer should be tried by the whole peerage, and the commons assented immediately to this amendment.

The object of the next debate was the supply for the year 1696, and the commons readily fixed it by their vote to 5,240,853*l.*; they also settled a fund for raising 500,000*l.* for the civil list, and 15,000*l.* a-year for the French protestants. The question respecting the bad state of the coin, occasioned long and violent debates; at last, however, the majority, adopt-

ing the advice of the renowned mathematician, Isaac Newton, resolved to proceed with all possible expedition to a new coinage, in which the established standard should be preserved respecting weight and fineness, and that the loss accruing to the revenue from clipped money should be borne by the public; they voted accordingly, to make up that loss, 1,200,000*l*, to be raised by a duty on glass windows. In order to prevent totally a stagnation, they farther resolved that after an appointed day no clipped money should pass in payment, except to the collectors of the revenue and taxes, or upon loans or payments into the exchequer; that after another day to be appointed, no clipped money of any sort should pass in any payment whatsoever; and that a third day should be fixed for all persons to bring in their clipped money to be re-coined, after which they should have no allowance upon what they might offer; and that a reward of three-pence per ounce should be given to all such persons as should bring in wrought plate to the mint to be coined.

Ann. 1696.

Complaints of the house of commons respecting a grant obtained by the earl of Portland, of some lordships in Derbyshire, which were the ancient demesnes of the prince of Wales. The commons beseech his majesty to recall the grant, as being injurious to the honour and interest of the crown, and humbly insist that the said manors and lands might not be alienated without the consent of parliament. The king, displeased at this address, promises, however, to recall the grant, and says he will find some other way of showing his favour to the earl. Both houses present likewise a joint address to his majesty against the act for erecting a Scottish company trading to Africa and the Indies.

and represent it as a scheme tending to prejudice all the subjects concerned in the wealth and trade of the English nation. The king replies to this remonstrance, that he had been ill served in Scotland, but that he hoped some remedies would be found to prevent the inconveniences of which they were apprehensive. Notwithstanding the king's answer, the commons, taking into consideration a petition of the East-India company, resolved that the directors of the Scottish company, in administering and taking in this kingdom an oath *de fidei*, and under colour of a Scots act of parliament, styling themselves a company, were guilty of a high crime and misdemeanor, and should be impeached for it.

The zeal of the commons for the English trade induced them to take into consideration the loud complaints of the merchants, who had suffered by the war; they resolved accordingly that a council of trade should be established by act of parliament, with power to take measures for the more effectual preservation of commerce; that the members of this council should be nominated by parliament, but none of them have seats in the house. William was very much exasperated by these resolutions, which he considered as an open attack upon the royal prerogative, of which he was no less jealous than any of his predecessors. He signified his displeasure to Sunderland, who, with all his adherents, declared for the bill. His majesty, far from suspecting that his favourite minister entertained a secret correspondence with the court of St. Germain, and had promised to oppose his measures in parliament, ascribed the conduct of this nobleman to his fears from the popular party. (*Stuart Papers*, 1695, *Macpherson*.)

At this critical juncture an unexpected event changed favourably the whole face of William's affairs. The malcontents incessantly urged king James to undertake an invasion, promising power-

ful insurrections in England whenever he should appear on the coast. They redoubled their instances when the new parliament discovered symptoms of refractoriness to the measures of William. They assured James, that to land in England only, was to regain his crown without contest; that the greatest part of the nation would immediately rise in arms and restore him to the throne. Lewis XIV. depending on these accounts, agreed to furnish an army and every thing necessary for a descent, insisting, however, that the jacobites should rise in arms before the French troops should embark. The duke of Berwick was dispatched by his father to England, to take the insurgents under his command. The troops intended for the invasion began to draw near to Calais and Dunkirk; 400 sail of great and small vessels were assembled from different ports, James himself, urged by Lewis XIV. arrived at Calais, February 20th.

During these preparations, a conspiracy for assassinating William was framed in England by some ardent jacobites. They had long endeavoured, but in vain, to prevail upon James to give his assent to their design; he consented, however, to give to sir George Barclay, an experienced officer of undaunted courage, a native of Scotland, a commission for a general insurrection against king William and all his adherents. He came to London in the month of January, and chose for his associates one Harrison, a catholic priest, sir William Perkins, captain Charnoc, and captain Porter. They gained over some desperate Jacobites to form an armed party, consisting of forty men, and attack king William in the midst of his guards. The scene of the intended attempt was the lane between Brentford and Turnham Green, through which William usually passed on his return from Richmond; and the 15th of February was the day appointed for the exe-

cution. But captain Fisher, and Pendergrass an Irishman, who were to be employed in the attack, communicated the whole plot to the duke of Portland. They were both examined by the king in person, and encouraged to mix again with their friends. William kept at home on the 15th of February, so the conspirators postponed the execution to the 22d. But the king having again remained at home, a panic seized the whole party; some fled, but others were seized the next night in their beds. A proclamation was issued for apprehending those who absconded, and particularly Barclay, who was entrusted with the commission, written in king James's own hand, but he could not be found.

William having received at the same time the most positive intelligence of the preparations made in France for a sudden invasion of this country, he communicated the whole to the parliament in a speech, informing them that he had given the necessary orders for the fleet, and for bringing home such a number of troops as might secure the kingdom from any attempt. The two houses, forgetting at once their ill humour in this circumstance, concurred in a joint address, full of expressions of the most unlimited zeal and loyalty, "promising their utmost assistance to defend his majesty's person and support his government against the late king James, and all other enemies both at home and abroad; and declaring to all the world that in case king William should come to any violent death (which God forbid), they would revenge the same upon all his enemies and their adherents, adding, as an instance of their zeal for his majesty's service, that they would give all possible dispatch to the public business."

The discovery of the plot in England immediately broke in France the whole scheme of the intended

invasion; and James, after having tarried some days at Calais, returned in a discontented state of mind to St. Germain, while admiral Russel with an incredible diligence, prepared a powerful fleet to destroy the men of war assembled for carrying James and the French army to the English shores. Russel, however, finding his projected attempt against the French fleet utterly impracticable, returned to the Downs, and the result of the expedition consisted of a new bombardment of Calais, which caused but little damage.

An act of association to the same purpose as the address was drawn up and subscribed by both houses. Thence it was carried all over England, and signed by all sorts of people, very few only excepted; as to enforce the signing of it another act was passed, enacting, "that no person should be capable of any office or post of trust, civil or military, who should not sign the association." Besides the supplies, which were granted not only with liberality, but even with profusion, a new national bank was created by an act of parliament, for the purpose of raising money for the use of government; it was called *the land bank*, as being established on land securities; but this measure did not succeed, and the public credit was much injured by it.—The most remarkable acts passed this session, besides those already mentioned, were—

A severe act for making void all the elections of parliament men, at which the elected had been at any expense in meat, drink, or money, to procure votes; another against unlawful and double returns of members to the house of commons; an act of indulgence to the quakers, that their solemn affirmation should be accepted instead of an oath. The king refused his assent to another bill, for regulating elections for members of parliament. The projectors of the bill made a motion, that those who

had advised his majesty to put a negative on the bill were enemies to the king and kingdom, but the motion was rejected by a great majority; it was ordered, however, that the speaker should have the question printed with the votes, together with the names on both sides. Three days after the king closed the session, and prorogued the parliament till the 16th of June.

Among the conspirators who had not fled beyond sea, nine being taken were brought to their trials and executed. The king appointed to the administration of government the same persons he had entrusted with it during his last absence, and, after having received an extraordinary embassy sent by the republic of Venice to acknowledge him, he departed for Holland, where he arrived on the 9th of May. The summer passed over without any material action worth noticing. The scarcity of money kept both armies quiet. The funds voted for this year's service proved defective; that of the land bank failed totally, and the credit of the bank of England was much impaired. The coinage was carrying on with all possible activity; about 80,000*l.* were coined every week, yet still this supply was slow, and the new money was so generally kept up, that little of it appeared.

Lewis XIV. concludes privately a separate peace with the duke of Savoy, while his minister count d'Avaux, pressed the king of Sweden to offer his mediation to the allied powers. His Swedish majesty sent Callieres to Holland with proposals for settling the preliminaries of a treaty. He met with a favourable reception from the states-general, who began to treat with him, though not without the consent and concurrence of king William and the rest of the allies. In order to quicken the effect of this negotiation, Lewis pursued offensive measures in Catalonia, where the duke of Vendome attacked

and worsted the Spaniards in their camp near Ostalrick. The king of Spain agreed soon after to the neutrality of Italy, and to a suspension of arms until a general peace could be effected.

The naval achievements were of no consequence in this campaign, and consisted of taking a few merchant-ships, and the bombardment of the fort St. Martin in the isle of Rhé, and the little town of les Sables d'Olone, in the Lower Poitou.

In Scotland and in Ireland both parliaments voted the same address and act of association which had been voted by the English parliament, and the act of association was equally subscribed by the generality of the people in both countries.

William embarked for England October 6th, and on the 20th opened the session of parliament with a speech, importing that overtures had been made for peace, but that the best way of treating with France would be sword in hand; he represented the necessity of expeditiously providing for the service of the ensuing year, and for making good the supplies lately granted. He insisted on the insufficiency of the civil list, and desired them to contrive the best expedients for the recovery of the national credit, and for remedying the inconveniences arising from the bad state of the coin. The two houses renewed their loyal assurances that they would support his majesty against all his enemies at home and abroad. They voted above five millions for the service of the ensuing year, and a sum of 125,000*l.* adequate to the deficiency of the last supply. To raise these sums a poll tax was imposed upon all persons, according to the true produce of their real and personal estates, professions, employments, pensions, &c. &c.; so that none were exempt from the tax but such as received alms.

The great difficulty was to find a way to restore public credit, but it was overcome by the sagacity and

wisdom of Mr. Montague, the chancellor of the exchequer, and by the great influence he had acquired in the house of commons by his eloquence and abilities. He demonstrated that the principal cause of the mischief was the deficiencies of several aids and duties, which neither had been nor ever would be sufficient to answer the principal and interest charged upon them; and that these deficiencies and the remoteness of the course of payments, necessitated the owners of such tallies to dispose of them at a great loss for the procuring of ready money. The commons resolved accordingly to make good all the parliamentary funds, whose deficiencies, including the interest with the principal, amounted to 5,160,400*l*. In order to discharge this immense arrear, divers duties arising from the customs and additional impositions were continued; and should they not be sufficient, the deficit should be made good out of such aids and revenues as should be granted in the next session of parliament.

In order to support the credit of the bank, it was agreed to engraft upon its capital stock 800,000*l*. more, by new subscriptions at eight per cent. interest, to be paid by tallies and bank notes; accordingly a million was subscribed and paid in that manner. Upon this the credit of the bank recovered so completely that in a few weeks their notes, which bore no interest, were at par with money, and their bills, that bore interest, better than money.

Another evil of a greater magnitude remained still to be removed, the scarcity of money,—and it was the more important to provide for it, as it was the principal cause of the loss of credit. The cure of this dangerous political disease was due to the genius and enterprising fortitude of Montague. He prevailed on the commons to resolve, that the supplies for the service of the year 1697 should be raised within the year. This vote seeming imprac-

ticable, while the silver money was called in and re-coining, so as not to leave in circulation current coin enough to answer the wants of trade, and scarcely the necessities of life; the enemies of the government made themselves merry with this expedient. The success of it was, however, soon insured, by authorising the lords of the treasury to issue at several times, to the value of above two millions exchequer bills, which were appointed to be brought in and sunk upon the poll-tax, and any other of the king's revenue, except the land tax. A yearly interest of 7*l*. 12*s*. per cent. was allowed upon the second issuing of these bills, whereas the first issued bore no interest. A great number of them were only for five or ten pounds, which answered the common necessities of life and commerce among the lower class of people; and when they saw that these bills were received back again in payment of the king's taxes, they were very well satisfied to take them, at first indeed at a small discount, but not long after at par. In order that those who had advanced money in loans on any part of the king's revenue, might not be obliged to receive it back in paper that was under the value of the money, the lords of the treasury were authorised to contract with any corporation or number of private men, and to allow them a competent premium, provided they obliged themselves to exchange those exchequer bills for ready money when tendered to them for that purpose. They were at first allowed ten per cent. premium, but they were soon contented with four, and finally ceased to be employed, as the credit of the exchequer bills being thus secured, they daily rose nearer and nearer to par, till at last those bearing interest exceeded the value of money. The nation did not seem to know its own strength until it was put to this extraordinary trial, by which

public credit was completely and immediately restored.

A sum of 515,000*l.* is granted for the support of the civil list for the ensuing year, to be raised by a malt tax, and additional duties upon ale, cyder and perry; and provision is made for raising 1,400,000*l.* by a lottery. An allowance of 15,000*l.* a-year is voted for the assistance of the French protestants.

Ann. 1697.

Sir John Fenwick, indicted for high treason, as concerned in the late conspiracy against king William, had been apprehended in his way to France; but as there was but one witness against him, the new law for regulating trials in cases of treason seemed to be an insuperable obstacle to his being convicted in any court of justice. The law was, however, effectually eluded by a bill of attainder for high treason, brought against him, without allowing him a trial. This occasioned long and warm debates in both houses, but it was carried at length by a majority of 189 against 156 in the house of commons, and of 68 against 61 in the upper house, and the royal assent being given to the bill, sir John Fenwick was executed January 28th. Another bill of attainder was passed against Barclay and ten other conspirators, who had fled from justice, in case they should not surrender themselves on or before the 25th of March next ensuing.

The session is closed April 16th, and the parliament prorogued to the 13th of May. The king arrives in Holland at the end of April, and finds the preliminaries settled between the French and Dutch ministers, and that the states-general, in consequence of the concessions made by France, had resolved that the mediation of Sweden might be

accepted. Spain was not satisfied with those concessions, but the other powers had signified their assent. From the part of France, it was agreed that the treaties of Westphalia and Nimeguen should be the basis of the negociation; that Strasbourg should be restored to the empire, and Luxembourg to the Spaniards, together with Mons, Charleroi, and all places taken by the French in Catalonia since the treaty of Nimeguen; that Dinant should be ceded to the bishop of Liege, and all reunions since the treaty of Nimeguen be made void; that the French king should make restitution of Lorraine; and, upon conclusion of the peace, acknowledge the prince of Orange as king of Great Britain, without reserve. This declaration at the congress was strengthened by operations in the field. Mareschal de Catinat invested and took Ath in the Netherlands; the duke de Vendome laid siege to Barcelona by land, while the count d'Estrées blocked up the place by sea. After a siege of nine weeks and a very honourable defence, the town was surrendered by capitulation. That conquest determined the king of Spain to listen to the proposals for a general peace. His eagerness for it was not a little promoted by the success of the French rear-admiral Pointis, in America, where he took Carthagen, in which he found a booty, amounting to 8,000,000 of crowns, and ruined the fortifications of the place.

At this juncture the death of the king of Poland (John Sobieski) opened a scene of intrigue for the crown of that kingdom. The abbé, afterwards cardinal de Polignac, ambassador of France in Poland, wrote to his court that thoughts were entertained of the late king of England in the new election for filling the throne, and that he had been already named by some of the diets. King James received immediately this intelligence from Lewis

XIV. who sent immediately M. de Pomponne, his minister, to St. Germain with the letter of the abbé de Polignac. The friends of this unfortunate prince were sanguine for the project; but he rejected it, saying, that had the crown of Poland been actually offered to him he would not accept of it, much less would he endeavour to obtain by solicitation any throne that was not his due; that his acceptance of any other sceptre would amount to an abdication of what he deemed his right; that therefore he was resolved to remain in his present forlorn situation, rather than to do the least act to prejudice his family.

On James's refusal, Lewis thought of supporting the prince of Conty as a candidate for the crown of Poland, and great remittances were made to the abbé de Polignac, to bribe some Palatines, who opposed the French interest. But the elector of Saxony, who had agreed to change his religion, to distribute eight millions of florins among the Poles, to confirm their privileges, and to advance with his troops to the frontiers of that kingdom, having performed these articles, and being supported by the Imperial party, he was proclaimed the elected king.

While the negotiations proceeded slowly at Riswick, the earl of Portland and mareschal de Boufflers met near Halle, in sight of the two opposite armies, and held a conference in the open field on the 10th of July. They met again on the 15th and 20th of the same month, in the same manner; but on the 26th of July and the 2d of August they retired to a house in the suburbs of Halle, and put in writing the terms to which they had agreed in the field.

As William did not trust his three plenipotentiaries at Riswick, with his agreement with France, it was generally inferred that some secret stipula-

tions of the last importance had taken place between the two kings. The mystery has been at last unravelled, by the papers belonging to the family of Stuart, and by the life of James II. written in his own hand, and kept in the Scotch college at Paris, and by the papers preserved in the *dépôt des affaires étrangères*, at Versailles. From these original documents it appears that Lewis, unwilling to desert James, proposed that the prince of Wales should succeed to the crown of England, after the death of William, who, with little hesitation, agreed to this demand. He even solemnly engaged to procure the repeal of the act of settlement, and to declare by another, the prince of Wales successor to the throne. This important preliminary being admitted, the jointure of 50,000*l.* a-year settled upon king James's queen was agreed to be paid, though the money was afterwards retained on various pretences.

Before the opening of the congress, king James had published two manifestoes, addressed to the princes of the confederacy, and requesting the redress of his wrongs. His remonstrances being altogether disregarded, he issued a declaration, solemnly protesting against all that might or should be negotiated, regulated, or stipulated with the usurper of his realms, as being void of all rightful and lawful authority.

King William leaves the army August 3d, retires to Dieren, and sends the earl of Portland to acquaint the congress that he had settled his own affairs, and those of his kingdoms, with France, earnestly pressing the allies, and particularly the emperor, to hasten the conclusion of the general peace. As to his stipulations respecting the prince of Wales, James answered to Lewis XIV. who made to him the first overtures on this important subject, "That though he could suffer, with Christian patience, the prince of Orange's usurpation upon him, he

“ could never consent that his own son should do it too ; and could not support the thought of making his own son an accomplice to his unjust dethronement.” (*Life of James II. written by himself, ann. 1697. Macpherson’s Original Papers, vol. i. p. 260.*) The queen expressing the same opinion, added that she would rather see her son dead, than invested with the crown during his father’s life. (*Mem. du duc de Berwick, vol. i. p. 172.*) Lewis perceiving this obstinacy, urged no further a point of which James himself could be the only judge.

The treaty was signed by the plenipotentiaries of France, England, Spain, and the states-general, in the middle of September, and the emperor acceded to it October 30th. William agreed to pay 50,000*l.* a-year, by way of jointure to king James’s queen ; and Louis XIV. engaged not to disturb William in the possession of his kingdoms ; and thus a general tranquillity, though destined to be of a short duration, was re-established in the north and west of Europe. King William having concluded this important transaction, returned to England about the middle of November, and was received in London amidst the liveliest acclamations of the people, who now hailed him as their deliverer from a ruinous war.

The session of parliament was opened December 3d. The king informed them in his speech, that there was a considerable debt on account of the fleet and army, that the revenues of the crown had been anticipated ; he expressed his hope that they would provide for him during his life, in such a manner as would conduce to his own honour and that of the government. He recommended the maintenance of a great naval force, and gave it as his opinion, that in the present state of affairs abroad, England could not be safe without a standing army.

Though the address of the commons, in answer to the speech, was full of congratulations and thanks for the termination of the war, they carried so high their jealousy of a standing army, as to be offended at the king's proposal, and at the way he had taken to offer them his opinion on that point. Therefore, as no number of troops had been mentioned, they immediately came to a resolution of paying off and disbanding all the forces that had been raised since the year 1680; so that a force, not exceeding 10,000 horse and foot, was all that the house agreed to pass, as necessary for a summer and winter guard at sea for the year 1698.

This gave the king the greatest disgust that had befallen him in his whole reign. He thought that it would render his alliance so inconsiderable, as to make it impossible for him to carry on the government after it should be reduced to so weak and contemptible a state. In this perplexity, he was once very near taking the desperate resolution of abandoning England and returning to Holland.

However, upon more mature reflections, William altered his mind, and seemed to be reconciled with the idea that the rank of a king of Great Britain, though with an army of 10,000 men only, was still a little higher than that of a stadtholder, even with an army of 20,000 men.

A great resentment being daily expressed against Sunderland, who was suspected of having suggested the unpopular measure of keeping a standing army, the great number of his enemies in both parties, and his apprehensions of their vengeance, determined him to resign the office of lord chamberlain, contrary to the entreaties of his friends, and to the earnest desire of the king, whose confidence he possessed almost exclusively.

Pursuant to their resolution, the commons grant a supply of 250,000*l.* for disbanding the army, and

to be given to such officers and soldiers as were or should be disbanded. Provision is made likewise for half-pay to commission-officers, being Englishmen. Another resolution is taken to grant a sum sufficient to cancel all exchequer bills to the amount of 2,700,000*l*. A sum of 1,400,000*l*. is voted to make good deficiencies. They resolve that the sum of 2,348,102*l*. is necessary to pay off arrears, subsistence, contingencies, general officers, guards and garrisons. They take into consideration the subsidies due to foreign powers, and the sums owing to contractors for bread and forage. Examining further the debts of the nation, they find their amount to be of 2,113,321*l*. and provide for their gradual discharge. As to a personal and perpetual revenue which the king so earnestly desired from the beginning of his reign, a bill was passed, raising the civil list for his life to 700,000*l*. including the jointure of 50,000*l*. per annum to be paid to queen Mary d'Este, according to the stipulation at Riswick, and an equal sum to maintain a court for the duke of Gloucester, son of the princess Anne of Denmark, as he was now in the ninth year of his age. But the queen's jointure was never paid, nor would the king allow above 15,000*l*. for the use of the duke of Gloucester,

Ann. 1698.

A fire broke out at Whitehall, January 4th, which almost entirely destroyed the palace, except the banquetting-house.

Czar Peter, in his travels, comes to England incognito, and is magnificently entertained by king William, January 11th. The czar observes with particular attention the improvements in the art of ship-building, and carries over with him numbers of good artificers.

The East-India company being sounded about advancing a sum of money to the government, by way of loan, in consideration of a parliamentary settlement, they offered to raise 700,000*l.* on that condition; but during the deliberation on this proposal, another body of merchants, under the auspices of Montague, offered to lend two millions at 8 per cent. provided they might be gratified with an exclusive privilege of trading to the East Indies. This offer is preferred to the other by the majority in the house of commons, and a bill was brought in for that purpose notwithstanding the claims, representations, and important services of the old company, and though they submitted at last to offer the same sum as the other company, and on the same terms. This flagrant injustice blasted, in a great measure, the reputation of the whigs, who promoted it, and whose popularity had for some time been on the decline. They were accused of having robbed the public, by embezzling the national treasure, and amassing wealth by usurious contracts.

Another offence, of a much greater extent, was at that time animadverted upon by the commons; but through the good fortune which not unfrequently attends robberies to a large amount, the offenders found in their immense booty, the surest means of escaping with impunity. Exchequer bills, which bore no interest at their first issuing out of the exchequer, were allowed an interest of 7*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.* per annum, when after being paid in on any of the king's taxes, they were issued again by the exchequer. This encouraged several of the king's officers, both in the exchequer, the customs, and the excise, to contrive together to get great sums of money by false endorsements on these bills, before they had been brought in on any of the king's taxes. One of the offenders, to procure his pardon, compounded to actuse the most considerable among them; and

upon a full proof of the matter, Duncomb, receiver-general of the excise, and Knight, treasurer of the customs, both members of parliament, were at first expelled the house, and confined to the tower. Burton, who had a place in the excise-office, was sent to Newgate, and bills of pains and penalties were ordered to be brought against them. The first levelled at Duncomb, inflicted on him a fine of nearly half of his estate, which was computed at 400,000*l*. The bill passed the house of commons, though not without great opposition; but was rejected in the house of lords by the majority of one voice. The peers discharged Duncomb from his confinement, but he was re-committed by the commons, and remained in custody till the end of the session. Thus, the great noise this forgery had made all over the kingdom, was suddenly quieted, and no more was heard of it.

A solemn address of the commons is presented to the king, respecting the general corruption of the age, beseeching his majesty to command all his judges and magistrates to put the laws in execution against profaneness and immorality. The king professes himself extremely pleased with this remonstrance, and promises to give immediate directions for a reformation. A society for propagation of the gospel in foreign countries, was erected about this time, as well as another society for the reformation of manners under the king's countenance and encouragement. Considerable collections were made for maintaining clergymen to read prayers and administer the sacrament every Sunday in places of public worship. The members of this society resolved to inform the magistrates of all vice and immorality they should discover, and to constitute a fund of charity with that part of the fines allowed to the informer.

The business of the session being terminated, the

parliament was prorogued July 3rd, and dissolved two days after in the terms of the triennial act. During these three years, England fortunately emerged from a very critical situation ; all the money of the country was re-coined, public credit was restored, the payment of the national debt was solidly provided for, an honourable peace was made, and the king secured in his government. The chief conduct of the administration was now entrusted to a few men of the most distinguished talents. The chancellor, lord Somers, one of the ablest and most incorrupt judges that ever presided in chancery, had an eminent influence in the house of lords, and his great capacity for all affairs, made the king consider him beyond all his ministers. In the house of commons, Montague, chancellor of the exchequer, had by the power of his genius and eloquence, acquired such an ascendant over all the members who were zealous for the king's service, and such a confidence from the rest, that his opinions never failed to obtain a great majority. The fleet was under the management of admiral Russel, who had been created earl of Orford, and was both treasurer of the navy, and at the head of the admiralty.

In the month of January the earl of Portland had been sent as an ambassador-extraordinary to the court of France, and on the 27th of February, he made his public entry in Paris with such an extraordinary magnificence as had never been seen since the duke of Buckingham's embassy, when he came to demand in marriage the princess Mary Henrietta for king Charles I. Some days after his public audience he went to Versailles, where he staid a few days, and in a conversation with the king, expressed his surprise to find king James still at St. Germain, and complained of that circumstance as not agreeing with the promise made by mareschal de Boufflers to king William in their conferences in

Flanders, and though the mareschal denied the fact, the ambassador still insisted upon that point, but it was cut short by the king, who said, that if the prince of Orange stood upon that article, he would banish all thoughts of treating with him. (*Life of James II. written by himself; Macpherson's Original Papers, p. 261.*)

The conduct of the duke of Portland being disapproved by his royal master, he changed his tone, so as to encourage Lewis XIV. to propose to William a partition of the Spanish monarchy after the death of Charles II. whose constitution was irrecoverably exhausted. The plan of that partition was nearly the same as that concluded with the emperor Leopold thirty years before. (Mem. de Torcy, Vol. i.) Lewis perceiving that Portland knew very little of the matter, sent the count de Tallard with full powers to England. He arrived in London on the 19th of March.

During the earl of Portland's stay at Versailles, Mr. Prior, secretary of the embassy, was visiting one day the apartments of the palace, accompanied by a French officer, who, introducing him into the magnificent gallery, decorated with those famous pictures of le Brun, which represent the victories of Lewis XIV. asked him whether king William's exploits were also to be seen in his palace?—"No," "sir," replied Prior, "the monuments of my master's actions are to be seen every where but in his own house;" a reply, where there was more truth, as William's victory at La Boyne and the taking of Namur were the only military achievements to which Prior's gasconade could allude.

William intending to return to Holland on pretence of enjoying a recess from business, which was necessary to his constitution, appointed a regency to govern the kingdom in his absence; and the earl of Marlborough, who had been lately constituted

by his majesty governor of the duke of Gloucester, was declared one of the regents. The earl had lessened his professions to the late king, in proportion as the views of restoration entertained by that unfortunate prince declined. He felt, therefore, no reluctance in accepting king William's returning favour. At his majesty's departure, sealed orders were left with the ministry, directing that 16,000 men should be retained in the service, notwithstanding the vote of the commons which had limited the standing army to 10,000, not foreseeing the troubles which might arise at the death of the king of Spain; he hoped, accordingly, that the new parliament would thank him for having transgressed the limitation of the latter, whom he considered as being actuated *by a spirit of ignorance and malice beyond all conception*. (William's Original Letter to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, January 27th, 1648. Brit. Mus. Harleian MSS. 4748, Sloane Cat.)

William arrived at the Hague, July 21st, and repaired to his house at Loo, where he was soon visited by count Tallard, the French minister, who had instructions to forward the negotiation respecting the treaty of partition. The king had no personal interest of any sort in this treaty, as he did not pretend to any allotment in the distribution of the Spanish succession; but his two ruling passions, pride and ambition, were not a little gratified by acting in this negotiation the part he had ever ardently wished above all things, that of umpire in the concerns of Europe, holding the balance between its most powerful monarchs; and Lewis XIV. who well knew William's foible, could not follow a better policy than that of cajoling him by this negotiation, as there was no surer means to secure at least his neutrality, in case a new confederacy was formed against France on account of this treaty.

In the mean time the marquis of Harcourt,

French ambassador in Spain, was engaged in a negotiation of a very different nature. He was instructed to procure the succession of the Spanish crown for one of the Dauphin's sons, or at least, to hinder it from devolving upon the emperor's children, and he conducted this business with all the zeal and address it required; while on another hand, Lewis concluded an alliance with Sweden, on the apparent motive of securing the common peace by such means as should be found most proper and convenient.

The treaty of partition being agreed on and signed, William returned to England in the beginning of December, where a new parliament had been chosen and prorogued on account of his absence. They met on the 6th of December, and the king in his speech, observed, that their most serious consideration was required to determine what strength was to be maintained at sea, and what force kept up at land, as the quiet of the people's minds at home, the flourishing of trade, the supporting of credit, and the preserving to England the weight and influence it had at present on the councils and affairs abroad, depended principally upon that point. He desired likewise, they would make some further progress in discharging the national debt.

The commons, far from being of the king's mind, were so irritated at his presuming to maintain a greater number of troops than their predecessors had voted, that they omitted the usual compliment of an address, and resolved that all the forces of England in English pay exceeding 7000 men, should be forthwith disbanded; and also those in Ireland exceeding 12,000, and that all those retained, should be his majesty's natural-born subjects. The lords manifested the same dispositions. An opposition to the bill was made by some adherents of the crown; but the attempt was so feeble and ill-

supported, that it threw disgrace on the cause it was meant to serve, and afforded William's enemies an opportunity of censuring severely his character and conduct. They insinuated, that he harboured a dislike for England, and for the nation in general; that he placed no confidence in any Englishman; that he had left the kingdom in the preceding summer without any apparent motive for his absence, and merely to enjoy an indolent and inglorious privacy at Loo, with a few favourites and creatures in a manner unworthy of his character and of his high rank; that he seemed to act in England no other part than that of a stadtholder, while he acted only in Holland the part of a king of England.

The king was the more offended and chagrined at this affront, as he found himself disabled from maintaining his Dutch guards and the regiments of French refugees to which he was uncommonly attached. In his anger, he threatened to abandon the government, and had actually penned a speech to that purpose, to be pronounced to both houses. The rough draught of that speech composed in French and in the king's own hand-writing, is preserved at the British Museum (*Harleian MSS. Royal Letters*, No. 7502, p. 29.) It contains the following passages.

“ But seeing that you have so little regard to
“ my advice as to take no manner of care of your
“ security; and that you expose yourselves to evident ruin by divesting yourselves of the only
“ means for your defence, it would not be just nor
“ reasonable that I should be witness of your ruin;
“ not being able to do any thing of myself, it not
“ being in my power to defend and protect you,
“ which was the only view I had in coming into
“ this country. Therefore I am obliged to recommend to you to choose and name to me such
“ persons as you shall judge most proper, to whom

“ I may leave the administration of the government in my absence.... beseeching the great God to bless your deliberations, and to inspire you with all that is necessary for the good and welfare of the kingdom.”

However, William yielding to the solicitations of his ministers and friends, again altered his mind. Accordingly, when the bill was ready for the royal assent, he went to the house of lords and told them, “ That although he might think himself unkindly used in being deprived of his guards, which had constantly attended him in all his actions; yet as he believed nothing could be more fatal to the nation than any distrust or jealousy between him and his parliament, he was come to pass the bill according to their desire. At the same time, for his own justification and in discharge of the trust reposed in him, he declared, that in his own judgment, the nation was left too much exposed, and that it was incumbent upon them to provide for such a strength as might be necessary for the safety of the kingdom.”

This act of condescending resignation was immediately followed by addresses from both houses, assuring his majesty that he would never have reason to think the commons were undutiful or unkind, for they would on all occasions stand by and assist him in the preservation of his sacred person, and in support of his government against all his enemies. He forthwith issued orders for reducing the army to the number of 7000, and hoping that the hearts of the commons were now mollified, he sent them a written message, informing them “ That the necessary preparations were made for transporting the Dutch guards, and that they should embark immediately, unless out of consideration to him the house should be disposed to find a way for continuing them longer in the service,

“ a favour, which his majesty would take very kindly.”

This attempt, however, could not divert the commons from their purpose, but they softened the harshness of their denial by expressing “ their unspeakable grief that his majesty should be advised to propose any thing to which they could not consent with due regard to that constitution which his majesty came over to restore, and had so often exposed his royal person to preserve; that nothing was more conducive to the happiness and welfare of the kingdom than an entire confidence between his majesty and his people, which could no way be so firmly established as by entrusting his sacred person with his own subjects, who had so eminently signalized themselves on all occasions, during the late long and expensive war.” The king returned a kind answer to this address, and the Dutch guards were soon after shipped off for Holland.

Ann. 1699.

The king prorogues the parliament, appoints a regency, and embarks for Holland, June 2nd.

The Scottish India company, notwithstanding all the obstacles and discouragements to which they had been exposed, had fitted out two large ships laden with a cargo for traffic, with some artillery and military stores; and the adventurers embarking to the number of 1200 had directed their course to the coast of Darien, where they had treated with the natives for the establishment of their colony, and taking possession of the ground to which they gave the name of *Caledonia*, began to execute their plan of erecting a town under the appellation of *New Edinburgh*; and wrote a letter to the king containing a detail of their proceedings, and implor-

ing the continuance of his royal favour and protection. But the courts of France and Spain complaining of this invasion, and remonstrating against the settlement of this colony as a mark of disregard from England, and a breach of her alliance with them, William resolved to crush this establishment, and effected its immediate ruin, by issuing proclamations, prohibiting under the severest penalties all his majesty's subjects from holding any correspondence with the Scottish colony, or assisting it in any shape with arms, ammunition or provision. Orders to the same purpose were sent to the governors of Jamaica and of the other English settlements in America; so that famine soon compelled the first adventurers to quit the coast; a second and a third recruit were sent thither with provisions, but they were soon divided into factions which rendered all their schemes abortive. The Spaniards advanced against them, and compelling them to capitulate, they permitted them to retire. Thus vanished all the golden dreams of the Scottish nation. A great number of families were absolutely ruined by the miscarriage of this enterprise, which they imputed solely to the conduct of king William. The whole kingdom of Scotland joined in the clamour raised against their sovereign, whom they taxed with double dealing, inhumanity and ingratitude.

The treaty of partition of the Spanish dominions was now become useless by the unexpected recovery of the king of Spain, and the death of the electoral prince of Bavaria, whom the treaty and the will of Charles II. had destined for the throne of Spain and the Indies. Lewis XIV. had resolved accordingly to concert with king William the plan of a new treaty, and frequent conferences had taken place on the subject, between the grand pensionary of Holland, the duke of Portland and the French

ambassador, count de Tallard, when the Spanish minister at the Hague having found means to get some intelligence about this secret negotiation, transmitted it to Madrid. Mr. Stanhope, the English minister at that court, received immediately a written remonstrance, expressing their resentment at this strange method of proceeding, and the marquis de Canales, the Spanish ambassador at London, was directed to make the same representation to the regency and to desire that a stop might be put to those intrigues. The Spanish ambassadors at Paris and the Hague received the same orders. Marquis de Canales was pleased with this opportunity to insult king William, who hated his person, and had forbid him the court on account of his appearing covered in his majesty's presence. He accordingly delivered to the lords-regents a memorial couched in the most virulent terms against the transaction. The regency had no sooner communicated this paper to the king, than he ordered the ambassador to quit the kingdom in eighteen days, and to remain within his own house till the time of his departure. He was likewise informed that no writing would be received from him or any of his domestics. Mr. Stanhope was directed to complain at Madrid of the affront offered to his master, which he styled an insolent and saucy attempt to stir up sedition in the kingdom, by appealing to the people and parliament of England against his majesty. But the court of Madrid approved what their minister had done, and in their turn ordered Mr. Stanhope to leave Spain in eighteen days. In the mean time the states-general refused to receive the memorial of the Spanish minister; the negotiation was not interrupted, and the new articles proposed by Lewis were agreed upon by William.

The king having returned from Holland, opened the session with a very sensible speech, concluding

with these words : " Since then, our aims are only
" for the general good, let us act with confidence
" in one another ; which will not fail, with God's
" blessing, to make me a happy king, and you a
" happy flourishing people." The commons,
though without any provocation, were so ill-dispo-
sed towards his majesty, that they affected to put
odious interpretations on this friendly sentence ;
and instead of the usual address of thanks, they
presented a sullen address of complaint, that a jea-
lousy and disgust had been raised on their duty and
affection, desiring the king that he would show marks
of his high displeasure towards all persons who had
presumed to misrepresent their proceedings to his
majesty. William thought it proper to dissemble
the disgust he felt at these unjust complaints, and
his answer, though guarded, was full of kind and
affectionate expressions. He did not succeed, how-
ever, in softening the ill-humour of the commons,
nor in diverting those who opposed him from their
resolution of forcing a change of ministry upon
him ; they sought all occasions for it, and flattered
themselves that the following affair might answer
their purpose.

One Kidd offered to suppress the piracies which
were the occasion of frequent complaints, provided
the government would furnish him with a ship of
thirty guns, well manned. The board of admiralty
declaring that such a number of men could not be
spared from the public service, Kidd was equipped
by the private subscription of the lord chancellor,
the duke of Shrewsbury, and of many other noble-
men. The king himself promised to contribute
one-half of the expence, and reserved to himself
one-tenth of the profits ; but he never advanced
the money. This adventurer, supported by so no-
ble a patronage, had no sooner set sail, than in-
stead of steering to the coast of America, as he had

engaged to do, for cruising against the pirates, he directed his course towards the East Indies, where, turning himself a pirate, he took a rich ship belonging to the Moors, and having divided the booty with his crew, ninety of whom left him to join other adventurers, he burned his own ship and sailed with his prize to the West Indies, where he purchased a sloop. Then leaving part of his men in the prize to remain in one of the leeward islands till further orders, he arrived in his sloop on the coast of New York; and sent one of his men to apologise for his conduct with lord Bellamont, the governor of that province, who inveigled him into a negociation, in the course of which he was apprehended as well as his crew. An account of his proceedings, was sent by his lordship to the secretary of state, to have the prisoners carried to England. The admiralty dispatched a ship for that purpose, but after having been tossed for some time with tempestuous weather, this vessel had returned to Plymouth in a shattered condition. This incident furnished the malcontents with an opportunity for accusing the ministry of being the authors and abettors of a piratical expedition, which they wanted to screen from the cognizance of the public; a motion was made to have it declared as dishonourable to the king, as contrary to the rights of the nation, and to the laws and statutes of the land. In the course of these warm debates, some members declaimed with great bitterness against the chancellor and the duke of Shrewsbury, as partners in a piratical scheme; however, the motion was rejected by a great majority.

The commons resolve that 7000 men should be the complement for the sea service for the year 1700, and that 300,000*l.* should be granted to his majesty for guards and garrisons, and that half-pay should

be allowed to the disbanded officers not provided for.

Ann. 1700.

The principal business of this session was the enquiry into the grants of the Irish forfeitures, a circumstance on which the party opposed to the court had chiefly built their hopes of disgracing the government. The commissioners appointed by parliament for this affair, proceeded with the greatest severity, particularly upon a grant under the great seal, dated the 30th of May 1695, passed to Mrs. Williers, now countess of Orkney, so as to expose his majesty's partiality for that favourite. This grant included all king James's private estates, except some small part in grant to lord Athlone, and contained 95,649 acres, worth yearly 25,995*l.* 18*s.* value 337,943*l.* According to the report of these commissioners, a million and a half might be raised from the sale of the confiscated estates, and a bill was brought in for applying them to the use of the public; and the commons passed at the same time an extraordinary vote, importing that they would not receive any petition from any person whatsoever respecting the grants. They afterwards resolved to represent to the king in the form of an address that the procuring and passing those grants, had occasioned great debts upon the nation and heavy taxes upon the people, and highly reflected upon the king's honour, and that the officers and instruments concerned in the same, had highly failed in the performance of their trust and duty. The king answered, that he was not only led by inclination, but thought himself obliged in justice to reward those who had served well in the reduction of Ireland, out of the estates forfeited to him in the re-

bellion of that kingdom, and that as the war had left the nation much in debt, their taking just and effectual ways for lessening it and supporting public credit, was what, in his opinion, would best contribute to the honour, interest, and safety of the kingdom.

The commons, exasperated beyond conception by this answer, immediately resolved that the adviser of it had used his utmost endeavours to create a misunderstanding and jealousy between the king and his people. They passed soon after a bill of resumption of these grants, appointing thirteen trustees, empowered to hear and determine all claims of purchasers and creditors relating to those estates; to sell them to the highest bidder, and the money arising from the sale, was appropriated to pay the arrears of the army. This bill passed under the title of a bill for granting an aid to his majesty by the sale of forfeited and other estates and interests in Ireland; and that it might undergo no alteration in the house of lords, it was consolidated with the money bill for the service of the year. After warm debates in the upper house, some alterations were made, which the commons, provoked at their interfering in a money bill, unanimously rejected, and being determined to give vent to their resentment, they ordered the doors of their house to be shut, that no members should go forth, and it was moved that an address should be made to his majesty to remove the chancellor from his presence, and councils for ever. The motion, however, was negatived by a great majority.

The king was extremely displeased at the bill of resumption, which he considered as an invasion of his prerogative, an insult on his person, and an injury to his friends and servants, and he was with great difficulty prevailed on by his ministers to give his assent to it. He could not, however, dissemble

his resentment. The commons perceived it, and, as if they intended to raise it still higher, they resolved that an address should be made to his majesty that no person who was not a native of his dominions, except the prince of Denmark, should be admitted to the king's council in England or in Ireland.

This resolution was levelled against the earls of Portland, Albermarle and Galway, but his majesty prevented this address being presented, by proroguing the parliament, April 11th.

One of the most remarkable acts of this session was passed against the catholics; it enacted, that all persons educated in that religion or suspected to be of it, who should succeed to any estate before they were of the age of eighteen, should be obliged to take the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and the test, as soon as they came to that age; and till they did it, the estate was to devolve to the next of kin that was a protestant, but was to return back to them upon their taking the oaths. All catholic priests were also banished by the bill, and condemned to perpetual imprisonment, if they should again return into England; and a reward of 100*l*. was offered to every one who should discover a catholic priest so as to convict him. But the bill being deficient in necessary clauses to enforce execution, was very little regarded.

Another bill admitted a petition presented by the old East-India company, that they might be continued by parliamentary authority during the remaining part of the time prescribed in their charter, so now there were two rival companies of merchants trading to the East-Indies.

While William was harassed in England by a violent and successful opposition in parliament, he was perplexed in Scotland by vehement instances for redress from the councils-general of the Scottish-In-

dian-African company. They solicited his majesty's protection in behalf of more than thirty persons wrongfully detained prisoners at Carthage. They earnestly requested him to assemble the Scottish parliament, as nothing could be more conducive to the support of the credit and interest of a company in whose misfortunes and prosperity the whole nation were concerned. All they could obtain was a promise that the king would demand in the terms of the treaties the release of their prisoners, and that their parliament would meet in the month of May.

William, revolving in his mind the daily provocations and mortifications he had experienced in the last session, and the means of preventing their recurrence, found that their principal cause was the great animosity existing in the commons against his ministers, particularly against the lord chancellor Somers, the most able of his servants, considered as the head of the whigs. His majesty resolved to dismiss him from his service in hopes that he would carry in his retreat all the unpopularity that had lately attended all the measures of the crown, and that the tories, to whom he now intended to apply, would easily forward the public business. But Somers excused himself from making the delivery of the seals his own act, as that circumstance might be construed by his enemies into guilt or fear. The earl of Jersey was accordingly sent to him with a warrant to demand the seals in form, and Somers delivered them to him without hesitation.

In the beginning of July, the king having appointed a regency for the government of the kingdom in his absence, resumed as usual his way to Holland, seemingly unawares that these frequent voyages being continued when there was no longer any apparent cause or excuse for them, discovered more and more his disgust for England, and naturally increased in the same proportion the disgust of

the nation towards him. On the 29th of the same month, the young duke of Gloucester, the only remaining child of seventeen, which the princess Anne had borne, died of a malignant fever in the 11th year of his age, generally lamented in England not only on account of his promising and amiable qualifications, but also as his death left the succession undetermined, and might be the occasion of troubles and contests of fatal consequence. The jacobites exulted in an event, which they thought was so favourable to the prince of Wales, while the protestants generally turned their eyes upon the princess Sophia, electress dowager of Hanover, and grand-daughter to James I. by her mother princess Elizabeth his daughter, married to the elector Palatine.

The kings of Denmark and Poland, with the elector of Brandenburg, formed a league at that time against the young king of Sweden, Charles XII. and immediately began to invade his dominions on different sides. The Swedish minister applied for assistance to king William and the states-general, pursuant to the existing treaties between the three nations. Accordingly a fleet of thirty sail, English and Dutch, joined the Swedish squadron in the Baltic, and bombarded Copenhagen, while Charles having successively executed a descent upon the isle, advanced to besiege the town by land, a resolution that struck such terror into the Danes, that by the mediation of William a treaty of peace was immediately concluded.

While the king was thus securing the restoration of concord and tranquillity among the northern states of Europe; tumults, discontents, and loud complaints prevailed in his own dominions. The new partition treaty concluded between William and Lewis XIV. but not yet acceded to by the emperor, now engrossed the minds of the people in

England, where it was no sooner known than condemned by the most intelligent part of the nation, as a scheme equally unjust in its principle and object, and hazardous in its execution. They bitterly censured, above all, William's concluding such an important affair without the advice of parliament. Others considered the treaty as destructive of the balance of power, and prejudicial to the interest of England; besides, it was known that when it was communicated to the other powers of Europe, it generally met with a very unfavourable construction. All these arguments were trumpeted by the malcontents, and the whole kingdom exhibited such symptoms of disaffection as to induce the tory faction to think in earnest of establishing the succession of the English crown upon the person of the prince of Wales.

In Scotland, when the parliament met, petitions, addresses, and representations of general and particular grievances were poured in upon them from every side. The Scottish-Indian-African company, as they had suffered most, were the loudest in their complaints. A motion was made that the colony of Caledonia at Darien was a legal and rightful settlement which the parliament would support. The commissioner perceiving that this vote was on the point of being carried, prevented it by suddenly adjourning the house for three days. When they met again, they resumed the motion, and the commissioner stopped the debates by a new adjournment for twenty days. The house enraged at it signed a spirited address to the king, remonstrating against these interruptions of their debates, and affirming that the second adjournment was a manifest infringement on the claim of rights annexed to the very act which had placed his majesty on the throne. A deputation was sent with this address to the king, who declared that he could give

no answer at that time, but that they should know his intentions in Scotland. The parliament was in the mean time further adjourned by proclamation. The discontented members talked of sitting by force, and of forming themselves into a convention. They even affirmed, that the army was ready to join their cause against a government, which by denying protection had no right to obedience; that they wanted nothing but money to declare the throne vacant, to restore the late king, or to confer the crown on some other prince, more inclined than the present to support the just claims of the nation. (*Manchester's Correspondence. Cole's Collection.*)

The almost extinguished hopes of the jacobites, which the death of the duke of Gloucester had begun to revive, became more sanguine on this occasion; but it was not capable of rousing king James from that kind of lethargy into which he had fallen ever since the treaty of Riswick. Weighed down with years, and unmanned both by that apathy which attends long misfortunes, and by his own religious enthusiasm and austerities, constantly fed by his daily correspondence with the pious abbot of Latrappe, he seemed to be reconciled with the idea that his reign was at an end in this world. But he had not resigned his hopes with regard to his son, and never doubted but he would one day recover the crown which he himself had lost. (*Continuation of James's Memoirs, MSS.*)

William finding it absolutely necessary to allay the ferment of the people in Scotland, wrote a letter to their parliament, dated from Loo, and containing in substance, "that he was deeply concerned for not being able to assert the Scottish company's right of establishing a colony at Darien, without disturbing the peace of Christendom, but that he would do all else that could be required for maintaining and advancing the peace

“ and welfare of their kingdom. He likewise promised to give his royal assent to all acts for better establishing the presbyterian government, preventing the growth of popery, suppressing vice and immorality, encouraging piety and virtue, securing personal liberty, regulating and advancing trade; and especially for retrieving the losses, and promoting the interest of the Scottish-African-Indian company. He further promised to encourage manufactures, and assent to whatever should be offered for clearing and securing property, strengthening the administration of justice, restraining and punishing crimes, &c. &c.”

By this letter, and some softening insinuations from the ministers, the heats in parliament were cooled, and the outcry of the people subsided into unavailing murmurs. The parliament passed an act in which they declared that their safety and happiness wholly depending on the preservation of his majesty's person and government, they would support both to the utmost of their power. Another act was passed for keeping on foot 3000 men for two years, to be maintained by a land-tax; and the king's commissioner informing them that the king desired to have 1100 men on his own account, they forthwith complied with the demand, and were prorogued to the 6th of May. The supernumerary troops were sent to the states-general, and the earl of Argyle was honoured with the title of duke, as a reward for having concurred with the commissioners in managing this session.

King William returned to England October 18th, and in the beginning of the next month he received intelligence that the king of Spain was actually dead, and had, by his last will, declared the duke of Anjou, second son of the dauphin, the sole heir of the Spanish monarchy. Cardinal Portocarrero, gained over to the French interest, had prevailed

on Charles's weakness to consult the pope on the momentous point of regulating the succession. Innocent XII. who was most devoted to Lewis XIV. having taken the advice of the college of cardinals, decided that the renunciation of the French queen, Maria Theresa, was null, as being obtained by compulsion, and contrary to the fundamental laws of the Spanish monarchy. He therefore advised Charles to make a new will in favour of a grandson of Lewis, assuring him that by this act of justice he would contribute to the propagation of the faith and the repose of Christendom.

Lewis having accepted the will, the marquis de Torcy, his minister, eagerly endeavoured to justify his master's conduct to the earl of Manchester, the English ambassador at Paris. He represented that the emperor refusing to accede to the partition treaty, and the other powers to whom it had been communicated, having unanimously signified their disapprobation, it was not likely to answer the principal design of the contracting parties, namely, the maintenance of peace in Europe, which was now so firmly established by Charles's will, that it might be justly said that Lewis, by accepting it, had only departed from the words, that he might the better adhere to the spirit of the treaty.

The king, completely disappointed by the conduct of Lewis XIV. was the more displeased at it that he considered the union of the two monarchies of France and Spain as a complete overthrow of the balance of power, the consequences of which might prove fatal to the liberties of Europe. He, however, carefully concealed his displeasure under the veil of an apparent indifference, until he should better know the sentiments of other sovereigns. He considered also that the contending powers, overawed by his reserve, might sue for his assistance, implore his good offices, and confer again upon him

the honour of arbitrating as an umpire in their important contentions ; and as the constant aim of his présent parliament tended to thwart all his measures, he dissolved it by proclamation, and writs were issued for a new parliament, to meet on the 6th of February.

Ann. 1701.

The new parliament meets ; the king in his speech at the opening of the session, deplores the death of the duke of Gloucester, and insists on the necessity of making a further provision for the settlement of the succession in the protestant line ; he recommends likewise to their mature consideration the great alteration made in the affairs abroad by the death and last will of the late king of Spain.

The too common practice of bribing electors, had never been so flagrant as in the elections for this parliament ; and as this scandalous traffic was chiefly ascribed to the whigs, the Tories spared no pains in detecting the corruption. An enquiry being set on foot, several elections were declared void, and some persons who had been illegally returned, were first expelled the house, and afterwards detained in prison. Large sums in louis-d'ors and pistoles imported from France at that period, gave rise to the suspicion that some attempt had been made to create a French party in parliament, but it was never ascertained whether these suspicions had any foundation, or if that unusual redundancy of gold was owing to a balance of trade in favour of England as it was maintained by the London merchants.

A considerable majority in the house of commons were of opinion, that an address should be presented to the king, desiring he would acknowledge the new king of Spain. But one of the

members who was of a different opinion, having said in the heat of the discussion, that he expected the next vote would be for owning the pretended prince of Wales; these expressions, which had not the least connexion with the subject of the proposed address, made such an impression as to change immediately the turn of the debate, which terminated by a resolution to support the king and his government, and to take such effectual measures as might best conduce to the interest and safety of England, and the preservation of the protestant religion.

The king receives favourably this address, lays before the parliament a memorial from the states-general, informing him that they had acknowledged the new king of Spain, that France had agreed to a negociation for securing the peace of Europe, and that the states were firmly resolved to do nothing without the concurrence of his majesty and their other allies. The commons consulted on this memorial, vote an address to desire his majesty would enter into such negociations with the states-general and other potentates as might most effectually conduce to their reciprocal safety, and to the preservation of the peace of Europe; assuring him of their support and assistance in the performance of the treaty between England and the states. William, more and more pleased with these resolutions, communicates to both houses an intercepted letter of the Earl of Melfort, containing a scheme for another invasion of England. Though Melfort, to whom no regard was paid at the court of Versailles, and who had been dismissed from that of St. Germain, was a mere fantastical schemer, intriguing to recommend himself again to king James; his letter answered, however, the motive of its communication to the parliament, by reviving the fears and resentment of the nation against France.

The French ministry complained of its publication as an attempt to sow jealousy between the two crowns, and as a proof of their sincerity, Melfort was exiled to Angers.

The next important debates in the house of commons, related to the further settlement of the succession. It was moved at first, that some conditions of government should be settled as preliminaries, before proceeding to the nomination of the person, lest what really was meant for the good of the subject, should be construed into any dislike to the prince on whom the election should fall. After some weeks were spent upon it, it was at last agreed on :

I. That whoever shall hereafter come to the possession of the crown, shall join in communion with the church of England as by law established.

II. That in case the crown and imperial dignity of this realm shall hereafter come to any person not being a native of this kingdom of England, this nation be not obliged to engage in any war for the defence of any dominions or territories which do not belong to the crown of England, without the consent of parliament.

III. That no person who shall hereafter come to the possession of the crown, shall go out of the dominions of England, Scotland, or Ireland, without consent of Parliament.

IV. That from and after the time that the further limitation by this act shall take effect, all matters and things relating to the well-governing of this kingdom, which are properly cognizable in the privy council by the laws and customs of this realm, shall be transacted there, and all resolutions taken thereupon shall be signed by such of the privy council as shall advise and consent to the same.

V. That after the limitation shall take effect, no

person born out of the kingdom of England, Scotland, or Ireland, or the dominions thereunto belonging, although he be naturalized or made a denizen, (except such as are born of English parents,) shall be capable to be of the privy council, or a member of either house of parliament, or to enjoy any office or place of trust, either civil or military, or to have any grant of lands, tenements, or hereditaments, from the crown to himself, or to any other in trust for him.

VI. That no person, who has an office or place of profit under the king, or receives a pension from the crown, shall be capable of serving as a member of the house of commons.

VII. That after the limitation shall take effect, judges' commissions be made, *quamdiu se bene gesserent*, and their salaries ascertained and established. But upon the address of both houses of parliament, it may be lawful to dismiss them.

VIII. That no pardon under the great seal of England be pleadable to an impeachment by the commons in parliament.

It was conjectured that these preliminaries, every article of which implied a virulent censure against the king and his administration, were designed by his enemies and the numerous partizans of the prince of Wales, to raise disputes between the two houses by which the bill might be lost; and many weeks elapsed before it was concluded. The commons, however, resolved at last, that the princess Sophia, duchess dowager of Hanover, be declared the next in succession to the crown of England, in the protestant line, after his majesty and the princess Anne, and the heirs of their body respectively; and that the further limitations of the crown be to the said princess Sophia, and the heirs of her body, being protestants. The bill being passed, the earl of

Macclesfield was sent for its notification to the electress, who likewise received from his hands the order of the garter.

This act gave umbrage to all the catholic princes, who were more nearly related to the crown. The duchess of Savoy, grand daughter to king Charles I. by her mother, ordered her ambassador to make in her name a protestation to the parliament against all resolutions and decisions, contrary to her title as sole daughter to the princess Henrietta, next in succession to the crown of England after king William and the princess Anne ; but no notice was taken of her protestation.

In the mean time Mr. Stanhope, envoy extraordinary to the states-general, being empowered to treat with the ministers of France and Spain, insisted upon many important articles, the most remarkable of which were, that the French king should immediately withdraw his troops from the Spanish Netherlands, and that for the security of England, the towns of Ostend and Nieuport should be delivered up to his Britannic majesty. The states-general joined in all the king's proposals, and demanded for their own security, that the strongest places in the Netherlands should be delivered to them. At these exorbitant demands the French minister, count d'Avaux, could not help saying, that they could not be higher if his master had lost four successive battles ; he assured, however, that the French troops would depart the Spanish Netherlands as soon as the king of Spain should have forces of his own sufficient to defend the country ; that as to the other articles, all that he could do was to transmit them immediately to Versailles. Lewis, offended at the insolence of those demands, declared that he would give no other security for the peace of Europe than a renewal of the treaty of Riswick.

William communicated those demands to the house of commons, and declared that he would from time to time acquaint them with the progress of the negotiation. In the debates the treaty of partition was called for, and at the reading of it the discussion rose to such a degree of violence, that the division of the Spanish territories was compared by some members to a robbery on the highway; one of them went so far as to say it was a felonious treaty; an expression at which the king was so offended as to declare he would have demanded personal satisfaction with his sword, had he not been restrained by the disparity of his condition with that of the offender. After long and warm debates the commons voted an address, in which the whole partition treaty was disapproved; and they desired the king, that for the future he would, in all matters of importance, require and admit the advice of his natural-born subjects of known probity and fortune, and constitute a council of such persons, to whom he might impart all affairs which should any way concern him and his dominions, as their experience and knowledge of their country would also render them more capable than strangers of advising his majesty in the true interests of it. The king carefully concealing his resentment at such an unpleasing address, coolly answered, "that it contained matter of very great moment, and that he would always take care that all the treaties he made should be for the honour and safety of England." Though his majesty plainly perceived the intention of the new ministers was to obstruct his favourite measure, and humble him into a dependence upon their interest in parliament, he did not alter his conduct towards them, but he deeply felt this affront.

The states-general send two resolutions and a memorial respecting the ships they had equipped to

join the English fleet, and the succours stipulated in the treaty of 1677, desiring its being sent with all convenient expedition. The whole being communicated to the house of commons, they resolve to desire his majesty to carry on the negotiations in concert with the states-general, assuring him they will effectually enable him to support the treaty of 1677, by which England was bound to assist them with 10,000 men and 20 ships of war, in case they should be attacked.

The king of Spain notifies to his majesty his accession to the throne, expressing a desire of cultivating a mutual friendship with the king and crown of England. William, complying with the entreaties, or rather importunities of the new ministers, returns a civil answer to his catholic majesty.

The French minister, count d'Avaux, presents a memorial to the states-general, informing them that he is ordered to resume the conferences for peace at the Hague; the states refuse to treat but in conjunction with England. D'Avaux replies that he has no objection to the English envoy assisting at the conferences, but that he is not authorized to enter into any negotiation with the states about the interests of England, which were to be treated of elsewhere.

The conferences being thus protracted the French king took advantage of the interval to erect some fortifications on the frontiers of Holland, while the Dutch exerted themselves for their own security, soliciting succours from foreign potentates, and sending memorials after memorials to king William, who as regularly sent new messages to the house of commons. They resolved at last to assist his majesty to support his allies in maintaining the liberty of Europe, and to provide immediate succours for the states-general, according to the treaty of 1677. The house of peers carried their zeal still farther, they desired his majesty would engage with the

states in a strict league, offensive and defensive, for their common preservation, and invite to it the emperor, pursuant to the treaty of 1689, and all other princes and states concerned in the imminent danger arising from the union of France and Spain. They assured his majesty of their hearty and sincere assistance, and that the unanimity, wealth, and courage of his subjects, would carry him with honour and success through all the difficulties of a just war. Lastly, they represented that the dangers to which his kingdom and his allies had been exposed, were chiefly owing to the fatal counsels that prevented his majesty's sooner meeting his people in parliament. The king could not but be very pleased at these resolutions, and he expressed his satisfaction by a separate answer to each house.

The commons, persevering in their design of impeaching the former ministry, resume the consideration of the partition treaty, and appoint a committee to make a report respecting it; on the report they resolve themselves into a committee of the whole house, declare the earl of Portland guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour, order him to be impeached at the bar of the house of lords, appoint a committee to prepare the articles of impeachment, and order the secretary of state, Vernon, to lay before them all the letters which had passed between him and the earl of Portland. Votes to the same effect are passed against the lords Somers, Orford, and Hallifax; and the king is desired by an address to remove the impeached lords from his councils and presence for ever. They answer the charges exhibited against them, consisting in their having accepted grants in Ireland, and advised the partition-treaty. No replication is made to their defence, notwithstanding repeated messages from the upper house, pressing the commons to expedite the articles. Divers messages pass between the two houses, the commons still insist-

ing upon a committee to settle preliminaries. At length the dispute is brought to a free conference, when lord Haversham happening to tax the commons with partiality, they charge him before the lords for this offence, desiring them to proceed in justice against him, and inflict upon him such punishment as so high an offence deserves. Lord Haversham offers to submit to a trial, provided the words imputed to him are previously proved. This declaration being imparted to the commons, they complain that he has not been censured in a summary way, and refuse to renew the conference. The lords appoint a day for the trial of lord Somers; when the commons not appearing to prosecute, he is acquitted. The other accused lords are dismissed a few days after for want of prosecutions.

The conduct of the commons on this occasion was loudly censured by the common people, and created disgust among the generality of the nation. This the whigs did not fail to augment by employing their emissaries in exciting a popular aversion to the tory ministers and members. In execution of this scheme a petition from the county of Kent had been presented to the house of commons, " recommending them union among themselves and confidence " in his majesty, whose great actions for the nation " could not be forgotten without the blackest ingratitude; begging that their religion and safety " might be effectually provided for; that their addresses might be turned into bills of supply; and " that his most sacred majesty might be enabled " powerfully to assist his allies before it should be " too late."

The house was so incensed at this petition that they voted it scandalous, insolent, and seditious, and ordered the gentlemen who had presented it to be taken into custody. Their confinement was the occasion of a very extraordinary paper, entitled,

“ A memorial from the gentlemen, freeholders, and inhabitants of the counties of ——— in behalf of themselves, and many thousands of the good people of England.” It was signed *Legion*, and sent to the speaker in a letter, commanding him to deliver it to the house of commons in the name of 200,000 Englishmen, *who had both a right to require and power to compel, viz. the people of England.* It was concluded in these words: “ For Englishmen are no more to be slaves to parliaments than to kings. Our name is *Legion*, and we are many.”

The house of commons perceiving that the sense of the nation was not in their favour, and dreading more serious effects of popular resentment, thought fit to alter their measures, proceeded in earnest upon the supply, and voted funds for raising about 2,700,000*l.* for the service of the ensuing year. They voted likewise 30,000 seamen, and resolved that 10,000 troops should be transported from Ireland to Holland, as the auxiliaries stipulated in the treaty of 1677; and as the duke of Gloucester was dead, and James's queen would not take her jointure, they reduced the civil list to 600,000*l.* In hopes of regaining some popularity, they passed a bill for taking away all privileges of parliament in legal prosecutions during the intermediate prorogations. They had another quarrel with the house of lords, concerning a bill for appointing commissioners to examine and state public accounts, but the king put an end to it and to the session, June 24th.

The earl of Marlborough is appointed plenipotentiary to the states-general, and the command of the 10,000 troops destined for Holland is conferred upon him.

The king's conduct during this boisterous session exhibited a remarkable instance of what can be effected with such a degree of self-command, pru-

dence, and sagacity as he possessed. Warned by the first debate that the parliament was likely to set powerfully against his measures, he seemingly fell down with the stream, constantly returning civil and soothing answers to the most severe addresses. He perceived at the same time that the whigs and tories were inflamed against each other to such a degree of inveteracy, and also so equally poised, that his making the least advance to one party, would undoubtedly turn against him, with an increased violence the animosity of the other, and create more or less confusion, difficulties, and dilatoriness in all public affairs, while, without declaring for either of the parties, he had the prospect of prevailing at length upon both. Such was accordingly the plan he adopted, and successfully executed.

William having established a regency, went over to Holland, examined the state of the frontiers and garrisons, and returning to the Hague, found that count d'Avaux had delivered a letter from the French king to the states, with a memorial of his own, to notify his being recalled home, as no advantage could be expected from continuing the negotiation, since they insisted upon the admission of the king of England's envoy into the conferences, though he had declared that his master would never depart from the interest of the emperor, nor enter into any proposals of accommodation, unless satisfaction were given to that prince.

The states-general returned a very spirited answer to that memorial, and redoubled their activity in all the preparations for their defence, augmented their army and hired auxiliaries. They had already, in conjunction with king William, concluded an alliance with the king of Denmark, who had agreed to send to their assistance 3000 horse, 1000 dragoons, 8000 foot, and even 4000 more, three months after

demand, in consideration of a subsidy of 300,000 crowns a-year. In the mean time French troops entered at once the towns of Nieuport, Ath, Mons, Oudenarde, Charleroi, Namur, and Luxembourg, where they found 22 Dutch battalions, whom Lewis XIV. would not detain as prisoners, that the first hostilities could not be imputed to him.

Prince Eugene, at the head of the Imperial army, enters Italy through the Venetian states, crosses the Adige, and defeats, near Carpy, July 9th, a body of 5000 French forces, commanded by the duke of Savoy, assisted by mareschal Catinat and prince Vaudemont. Mareschal Villeroi arriving in the latter end of August, with orders to attack the Imperialists, marches immediately towards Chiary, where prince Eugene was encamped; but after an unsuccessful attack of his camp, Villeroi is obliged to retire with the loss of 5000 men, September 1st. Towards the end of the campaign, the prince having taken possession of all the Mantuan territories, except Mantua itself, reduces all the places on the Oglio, and continues in the field during the whole winter.

Conferences are opened at the Hague between the emperor, the king of England, and the states-general; and a treaty, which afterwards obtained the name of the *Grand Alliance*, is signed September 7th. The design avowed in the articles was the procuring satisfaction for the emperor in the Spanish succession, and sufficient security for the dominions and commerce of the allies. It was also stipulated that the king of England and the states might retain for themselves whatever lands and cities their arms should conquer in both the Indies.

The unfortunate king James having ever since the peace of Riswick lost every hope of his restoration to the throne, had entirely resigned himself to religious penances and austerities, which, added to

infirmities of age, contributed, probably, not a little to impair his constitution, though once very vigorous. In the beginning of September, when at public prayers, according to his daily custom, he fell suddenly into a lethargy, which, though of a short duration, was attended with symptoms of a rapid and incurable decline. He languished for some days, during which the French king paid him several visits, always alighting at the castle gate, to prevent his being disturbed by the noise of coaches. The third time he called, he first acquainted the queen of his intention to acknowledge the prince of Wales king of England, at his father's death. He then came to the king's bedside; "Sir," said he, "I come to see how your majesty finds yourself to-day?" James making no reply, one of his servants told him that the king of France was there. "Where is he?" cried he, with a dying voice, and, stretching forth his emaciated arms towards him, "Sir, I am here," replied Lewis, "and I am come to see how you do?" James thanked him for all his favours. "Sir," answered Lewis, "what I have done is but a small matter. I have something to acquaint you with of greater consequence." As James's servants began to retire; "Let nobody withdraw," said Lewis; "I am come, sir, to acquaint you, that whenever it shall please God to call your majesty out of this world, I will take your family into my protection, and will treat your son, the prince of Wales, in the same manner I have treated you, and acknowledge him, as he then will be, king of England." The voice of divinity could not have made a greater impression than this unexpected declaration from the French king; all the assistants burst at once into tears, expressive of a mixture of joy and grief. Some threw themselves at the feet of Lewis XIV. whose bedewed eyes expressed also how lively he sympathized in all

the feelings excited by this affecting awful scene. James, in a kind of ecstasy, was endeavouring to say something, but could not be heard. Lewis, on going away, called the officer of the guard, and desired him to treat the prince of Wales as king, whenever his father should expire. The next day James was something better, and he sent lord Middleton to Marly to renew his thanks to the French king, and two days after, being the 16th of September, he expired, after having recommended to his son firmness in his religion, justice in his government if ever he should come to reign, and forgiveness towards his enemies, declaring that he himself heartily forgave the prince of Orange and the emperor. (*Account of King James's Death, MSS. Original Papers deposited at the Scot's College at Paris. Macpherson's Extracts, p. 589.*)

James II. died in the 68th year of his age. His reign lasted only three years, ten months, and seventeen days. Out of eight children he had by his first wife, Ann Hyde, the two princesses, Mary and Ann, survived him and succeeded to his throne. By his second wife, Mary d'Este, princess of Modena, he had six children, of whom two only survived him; James Francis Edward, born on the 18th of June, 1688, and styled the Pretender, and Louisa Maria Theresa, born on the 18th of June, 1692; she was never married, and died at St. Germain on the 8th of April, 1712.

James had besides four natural children by lady Arabella Churchill, viz. 1st. James Fitz-James, duke of Berwick, born in 1671. He followed his father in France, and served afterwards in the French army, where he soon became a great master in the art of war. He commanded both the French and Spanish armies with such success, that he was made a marshal and peer of France, by the title of marshal duke of Berwick, and a grandee and duke

of Liria, by the king of Spain, whose crown he preserved in very desperate circumstances. He commanded the French and Spaniards at the battle of Almanza, so fatal to the English, in 1707; he reduced Catalonia and its capital Barcelona, in 1714; he commanded the French army in Germany in 1733 and 1734, where having laid siege to Philipsburg, his head was taken off by a cannon ball, as he stood upon the trenches to take a view of the enemy's works. No general excelled him except the duke of Marlborough, his uncle; and of both of them it was said, they were never beaten, though they had commanded in numberless battles. He left three sons, the eldest styled James duke of Fitz-James; the second, duke of Liria; and the third was promoted to high dignities in the church.

2dly. Henry Fitz-James, styled *Grand Prior*, who followed his father into France, where he died, leaving only one daughter.

3dly. Lady Henrietta, married to sir Henry Waldegrave, afterwards lord Waldegrave.

4thly. Another daughter, who died a nun in France.

By Mrs. Sedley, created countess of Dorchester, James II. had only a daughter, named Catharine, born in 1681, and married in 1699 to James, late earl of Anglesea; but she was separated from him by act of parliament, and was afterwards married to John Sheffield, duke of Buckingham.

Lewis XIV. followed at this juncture the impulse of his generous character and magnanimity, rather than the dictates of policy, prudence, personal interest, or the opinion of his ministry, who advised him not to declare himself, at least for some time, but to remain passive, and let the prince assume what title he pleased, as this line of conduct might be some restraint on king William, whereas a present declaration must precipitate a rupture. But Lewis,

who was perhaps too liable to be misled by his exalted ideas of greatness and heroism, saw only in the present dilemma interest on one side, but honour in the other, and did not hesitate in his choice.—In concluding this narrative, let us observe, that among the memorable historical scenes which the pencil of the best painters has transmitted to posterity, there are none, or very few, more interesting than the last interview of Lewis XIV. with James II. on his death-bed.

William was no sooner informed of these circumstances, than he recalled the earl of Manchester from Paris, and ordered him to return without taking any audience of leave. Lewis XIV. in vindication of his conduct, issued a manifesto, which was sent to all the courts of Europe, and in which it was stated in substance, that his “acknowledging the
“ prince of Wales king of England, after the death
“ of James II. was a necessary consequence of his
“ having always acknowledged him prince of Wales,
“ which had never been complained of; that his
“ conduct was perfectly consistent with the fourth
“ article of the treaty of Riswick, which was the
“ only foundation of all the reproaches of king
“ William; though this article had only declared,
“ that his most christian majesty shall not disturb
“ the king of Great Britain in the peaceable possession of his dominions; nor assist with troops, or
“ ships, or any other succours, those who shall attempt to disturb him; all stipulations which his
“ most christian majesty intended to observe punctually, by granting no other assistance to the
“ prince than what the late king his father received
“ since the treaty of Riswick, which was merely for
“ his subsistence and the alleviation of his misfortunes.”

The substance of this manifesto was published in London by a secretary of count de Tallard, who had

been left in England, as agent for the court of France. He was now ordered to leave the kingdom. He witnessed before his departure the indignation of the whole nation against the French king, for having pretended to declare who ought to be their sovereign. The city of London presented an address to the regency, expressing the deepest resentment against France, and assuring his majesty, that they would at all times exert the utmost of their abilities for the preservation of his person, and the defence of his just rights. Addresses to the same purpose were sent up from all parts of the kingdom. In the mean time William hastened the most formidable preparations for the next campaign; and though his constitution had sustained such a rude shock, that he himself perceived his end was near, he exerted himself with surprising activity in establishing the confederacy and settling the plan of operations. A subsidiary treaty was concluded with the king of Prussia, who engaged to furnish a certain number of troops. The emperor agreed to maintain 90,000 men in the field against France: the proportion of the states was limited to 102,000, and that of England did not exceed 40,000.

The king arrives in England on the 4th of November; the parliament is dissolved by proclamation on the 13th, and another is summoned to meet on the 30th of December. His majesty's speech at the opening of the session is received with universal applause, and immediately followed by the most affectionate addresses from both houses.

Ann. 1702.

Mr. Secretary Vernon is ordered by the king to lay before the house of commons, copies of the treaties and conventions lately concluded by his majesty, which are so much approved, that the

house unanimously vote the supply. By another vote, they authorise the exchequer to borrow 600,000*l.* at six per cent. for the service of the fleet, and 50,000*l.* for the subsistence of guards and garrisons. They resolve to address his majesty, that he would insert an article in all his treaties of alliance, importing that no peace should be made with France until his majesty and the nation have reparation for the great indignity offered by the French king, in owning and declaring the pretended prince of Wales king of England, Scotland, and Ireland. They agree to maintain 40,000 men for the sea service, and an equal number for the land forces. The supplies were raised by an imposition of four shillings in the pound upon lands, annuities, pensions and stipends; and on the profits arising from the different professions; by a tax of two and a half per cent. on all stock in trade, and money at interest; of five shillings in the pound on all salaries, fees, and perquisites; a capitation tax of four shillings; an imposition of one per cent. on all shares in the capital stock of any corporation or company which should be bought, sold, or bargained for, and a further duty on malt, ale, cyder, and perry.

An act of attainder is passed against the prince of Wales, and another bill is brought in for abjuring him and swearing to the king by the title of rightful and lawful king, and his heirs, according to the act of settlement.

The whole nation now seemed to join with alacrity in all the designs of their sovereign. A fortunate coincidence of circumstances had thrown the opinions of the people into the same channel with his own. The parties in parliament were so well poised, that in a mutual fear of each other, they both courted the king. The animosities which had always thwarted his measures were suspended;

the factions in the city of London were in a great measure moderated by the union of the two companies trading to the East Indies, which found their mutual interest required a coalition. In short, William, at the close of a tempestuous unhappy reign, witnessed the dawn of more serene days, which he was not destined to enjoy. His constitution was now almost exhausted, and an accident accelerated that dissolution, which was apparently advancing, though by slow degrees. On the 21st day of February, in riding to Hampton court, his horse fell under him, and in his fall, his majesty broke his right collar bone. His attendants conveyed him to Hampton Court, where the fracture was reduced; but in the same evening he returned to Kensington in his coach, and the two ends of the fractured bone having been disunited by the jolting of the carriage, were replaced. He seemed, however, in a fair way of recovering, as it was declared in the gazette of the 28th of February; and on the same day he wrote a letter to the commons, expressing an eager desire that a treaty for the union of the two kingdoms of England and Scotland might be set on foot, and earnestly recommending this affair to the consideration of the house. On the 1st of March, the bill for attainting the prince of Wales received the royal assent by commission; but the next day such symptoms appeared, that all hopes of the king's recovery were lost. On the 8th of March about five in the morning his majesty received the sacrament from the hands of the archbishop of Canterbury, and soon after expired in the fifty-second year of his age and the 13th of his reign.

William III. was in his person of a middle size; he had an aquiline nose, sparkling eyes, a large forehead, and a grave solemn aspect. He had a deli-

cate constitution, and was subject from his infancy to an asthma and continual cough. Neglected in his education, he had no taste for literature, sciences, or the arts. He was very sparing of speech ; his conversation as well as his manners were of an unpleasing dryness, which was his character at all times, except in battle, when his deportment was free, spirited, and animating. Though a very indifferent general, he was ever fond of fighting, and rivalled the most eminent warriors in bravery, fortitude, and equanimity. He often committed great military errors, but he always found in his unshaken courage, the means of rallying his troops, and reviving their intrepidity, so that it was said, that though often beaten, he was never defeated ; but he neither possessed nor pretended any skill in maritime affairs. In his private character, he was frequently harsh, passionate, and severe ; in his temper silent and reserved ; in his address ungraceful, and he never discovered, at least in England, any of those amiable insinuating qualifications which conciliate affection and confidence. He probably had a different behaviour among the Dutch, whom he always loved and trusted exclusively, and was much beloved by them. Thence it was remarked, that he never seemed to be at home, but when in Holland. To men who observed him at a distance, as acting one of the principal parts on the grand political stage of Europe, he appeared a man of the most consummate prudence and capacity, and even one of the greatest princes of the age. During the last twenty years of his life, his abilities, by a skilful management of circumstances, raised him to a degree of influence in Christendom, scarcely ever obtained before by any prince beyond the limits of his own dominions. He was placed at the head of his native country as the last hope of her safety from conquest and a foreign yoke. He ascended

the throne of England as the apparent preserver of her religion, laws, and liberties; and he was considered in the same light by the rest of Europe. The empire, Spain, and Italy, looked up to his councils and measures as their only resources against the ambition and power of France. But however gratifying such a situation might be to his pride and ambition, its enjoyments could never make him appear happy or cheerful, as they were probably embittered by the sad recollections of the means to which he owed them, and by that gnawing consciousness of his being nothing more than an usurper, and even one of the most odious description, as he had no other claim to the throne of England than that of having violently expelled from it his uncle and father-in-law. Had he been really actuated in this criminal attempt by an ardent zeal for the protestant church, religious fanaticism might be admitted, if not as an atonement, at least as a palliation of his guilt. But William was nothing less than a religious enthusiast; and this can the less be denied, as he himself solemnly, though tacitly, acknowledged it in his private conferences with marshal Boufflers, previous to the treaty of Ryswick, when he readily agreed that the prince of Wales, a catholic prince, should succeed him to the throne of England, and even formally engaged to procure the repeal of the act of settlement, and to declare by another, that prince his successor to the throne. The preservation of the laws and liberties of England, was no less out of the question, as the stadtholder of Holland was neither entitled nor interested to interfere by any means in such political difference, between the king of England and his subjects, unless James II. had called for his assistance, which he never did. William came, however, not to assist, but to dethrone his father-in-law, and the real motives of such an unprecedented enterprise

may be easily discovered by a careful examination of his whole political conduct and character ; as it will be found that he had constantly in view to check the aggrandizement and power of Lewis XIV. whose ambition he greatly exaggerated, the better to conceal his own, which was equally to become himself the ruling potentate of Europe. The rank and power of a stadtholder being quite inadequate to a design of such magnitude, he wanted at first to raise himself by any means to the level of the other sovereigns of Europe. As he was well aware that Holland neither would nor could afford him the means of conquering any kingdom, he entrusted himself wholly to his good fortune, and was not disappointed in his expectations. At this very juncture, the divisions existing in England offered him the most favourable opportunity for invading the throne without invading the country, and therefore, without the assistance of a powerful army, he took advantage of it, without minding any other consideration, and completely succeeded. But he had no sooner ascended the throne of England, than he seemed to attach no other value to its possession than in proportion as it enabled him to attain his principal object against Lewis XIV. Thence the little care he took to alter in his manners towards his new subjects, that indifference and freezing coldness which rendered him so unfit to obtain any popularity ; so that six months were scarcely elapsed from his accession to the throne, than he had almost entirely estranged from him the loyalty of a nation, who, though perhaps a little jealous about their privileges, have given more instances than any other, of their inclination to love passionately, and trust even blindly, their sovereign, provided he seems to value their affection, and have at heart to please them. But William never could naturalize himself in England, nor even conceal his dislike for it, while

the prosperity of the country to which he owed his birth and extraction constantly engrossed his attention and solicitude. Thus, while his reign was one of the happiest for the nation with respect to the asserting and securing their most important immunities and privileges, and settling the English monarchy upon such basis as to make the monarch derive from the freedom of his people a degree of greatness and security, which treasures and arms cannot bestow upon other princes, it was for William himself the unhappiest period of his life, filled with mortifications of all kinds; and the people appeared to adhere to his government more from a fear of the return of his predecessor, than from any attachment to his own person, or respect for his right to the throne.

ANNE, Twenty-ninth Sovereign from the Conquest.

[Second daughter of James II. by Anne Hyde; born February 6th, 1665; married to the prince of Denmark, 1683; lost her son George, Duke of Gloucester, July 29, 1700, aged 11 years; succeeded her brother-in-law, William III. March 8, 1702; was crowned April 23 following; lost her husband, October 28, 1708, aged 55 years; died August 1, 1714, aged 49 years and a half; and was succeeded by her second cousin, George I. Elector of Hanover.]

Ann. 1702.

ANNE, ascending the throne, found England engaged in the grand alliance against France, and called by the expectations of all Europe to take the

lead both by land and sea in that formidable confederacy, while, at home, three jarring parties, the tories, the whigs, and the jacobites, constantly endeavouring to overthrow one another, divided not only the nation, but the parliament, and even the council. It must have been remarked, indeed, in the preceding reign, that the favourite political scheme of William, both in foreign affairs, and in his own administration, was to manage and neutralize opposite parties by holding the balance between them. The difficulty was to keep it steady, but his eminent talents, as well as the strength of his mind, were fully adequate to the task. Queen Anne was neither endowed with such shining abilities, nor with any remarkable capacity or learning. However, these concurring circumstances, which in former times, or in any other country, would have rendered her situation very critical and alarming, did not prove in the least an obstacle to the glory of her reign, or to the happiness of her people, owing to the late important improvements in the constitution, which, securing by the salutary collision of parliamentary influence, a constant and necessary succession of eminent talents in the administration, had for ever rescued England from the dangers attending any where else the hereditary right of succession to the throne, whatever may be the deficiencies in the talents and virtues of the prince next called to it. Transcendent genius and abilities are not absolutely necessary to constitute a good and excellent king, provided his ministers are sufficiently endowed with both; nay, they might, in some circumstances, prove more injurious in a king, than conducive to the welfare of the country. Let then an English monarch be above all things an upright, judicious, affable, benevolent prince, as nothing more is requisite to secure him the affection of his people, as well as a constant happiness to them and to himself,

notwithstanding the temporary disorders which some hot-headed party men, supported by a deluded multitude, may occasionally excite, but which will be soon subdued by the good sense of the nation, and even of their undeceived partizans.

Parliament, according to the act lately passed, resumed their sitting at king William's death, and presented their addresses of condolence and congratulation to the queen. The example was soon followed by all the towns and corporations of the kingdom. Her majesty went to parliament, March 11th, and addressed both houses with a speech, ending with these expressions: "As I know my own heart *to be entirely English*, I can very sincerely assure you, there is not any thing you can expect or desire from me, which I shall not be ready to do for the happiness and prosperity of England, and you shall always find me *a strict and religious observer of my word*." This conclusion was the more remarkable, that her saying that *her heart was entirely English*, might be construed into a censure against the late king, and her assurance that they should always find her *a strict and religious observer of her word*, could not but remind that her father, in his first speech, had used the same expressions, how little soever it was afterwards remembered by him. She expressed also her satisfaction at the unanimous concurrence of both houses in their addresses with her own opinion, declared that too much could not be done for the encouragement of their allies in humbling the power of France, and desired they would consider of proper methods towards obtaining an union between England and Scotland. She observed to the commons, that the revenue for defraying public expenses was expired, and that she relied entirely on their affection for its being supplied in such a manner as

should be most suitable to the honour and dignity of the crown.

The cordiality as well as the sweetness of voice and pronunciation with which this speech was delivered, made the most favourable impression, which the queen still farther improved by her affability in receiving the compliments of all her subjects.

Queen Anne, when she was a child, was used to play with Sarah Jennings, now countess of Marlborough, and had always expressed a particular fondness for her, which daily grew with their age. Upon the marriage of the princess with the prince of Denmark, in 1683, her friend was made at her request one of the ladies of her bed-chamber. A friend was what Anne most coveted. She was even so fond of that equality which, she thought belonged to friendship, that she was uneasy to be treated by her friend with the form and ceremony due to her rank, and could not bear from her the sound of words which implied in them distance and superiority. In this turn of mind she absolutely insisted that in their letters they should mutually assume such feigned names as would import no distinction whatsoever between them. *Morley* and *Freeman* were the names her fancy hit upon, and she left the countess to choose by which of them she would be called; she chose that of *Freeman*; and the princess took the other. From that time Mrs. *Morley* and Mrs. *Freeman* began to converse and correspond with one another as equals, made so by affection and friendship. (*Conduct of the Duchess of Marlborough*, p. 9.)

The queen writes a letter to the states-general, assuring them she will maintain the alliances of the late king with them; and that she should concur in all measures for preserving the liberty of Europe,

by reducing the power of France. The commons resolve, that the revenue that had been settled on king William, should be settled on her majesty for her life. The duke of Bedford and the earl of Marlborough are created knights of the garter. The latter is appointed captain general of all her majesty's forces in England, and of those employed abroad in conjunction with the allies. He is sent a few days after to the Hague as ambassador extraordinary, to assure the states-general that her majesty will not only observe and faithfully execute William's treaties with them, but that she is likewise ready to renew and confirm them. In the mean time the king of France, on the news of William's death, had immediately sent orders to his resident at the Hague to offer his friendship to the states-general, in hopes of detaching them from the *grand alliance* ; but they declared that they would adhere to the same principles, and to the treaties they had entered into.

The earl of Marlborough succeeded in every part of his mission. He agreed with the states-general that the campaign should begin by the siege of Key-serswaer and the attack of Cadiz, and that war should be declared against France on the same day at Vienna, London, and the Hague. He embarked for England, April 3d, after having gained the entire confidence of their high mightinesses. Anne, on giving her assent to the bill respecting her civil list, assured both houses, " That while her subjects
" remained under the burthen of such heavy taxes,
" she would straighten herself in her own expenses,
" rather than not contribute all she could to their
" ease and relief, with a just regard to the support
" and dignity of the crown, and that though the
" revenue might fall very short of what it had formerly produced, she would give directions that
" 100,000*l.* be applied to the public service in this

“ year out of the revenue they had settled upon her.” This polite generosity was as lively as generally applauded all over the kingdom, and was mentioned with the utmost gratitude in all the addresses that came afterwards.

The speaker and all the members of the house of commons took the *abjuration oath*, March 24th, “ For the further security of her majesty’s person, “ and the succession of the crown in the protestant “ line, and for extinguishing the hopes of the pretended prince of Wales.” The queen, however, in forming her ministry, discovered her partiality to the tories, in favour of whom she had ever been prepossessed ; and her great favourite, the countess of Marlborough, exerted in vain all her influence to engage her majesty to a better opinion of the opposite party. The ceremony of her coronation was performed, April 28d, with the usual magnificence.

Great debates in the council between the earls of Rochester and Marlborough respecting the declaration of war ; Rochester represented the dangerous consequences that might attend such a step, and urged that it was safer for the English to act only as auxiliaries, and to confine themselves to a sea war. Marlborough maintained, on the contrary, that it not only became the honour of the crown and nation to make good the late king’s engagements, but that France could never be reduced within due bounds, unless the English entered as principals in the quarrel. The commons, consulted by the queen on this important question, concurred in the same opinion ; the declaration of war against France and Spain was accordingly proclaimed, May 4th, with the usual solemnity, as it was on the same day by the emperor and the states-general. The declaration of France was not published till the 3d of July.

The house of commons pass a bill, empowering the queen to appoint commissioners to treat with the Scots for an union of the two kingdoms. Her majesty appoints prince George of Denmark, her husband, lord high admiral of England and Ireland, and receives an address from both houses, that she would engage the emperor, the states-general, and her other allies, to prohibit all trade and correspondence with France. The parliament is prorogued, May 25th.

The queen's conduct upon her accession to the throne of Scotland, by continuing all the whigs in the higher departments of the state, soon damped the joy which her elevation had raised among the discontented. They applied through their leaders for the dissolution of the convention-parliament; but they were successfully opposed by the ministers, who were afraid to venture upon new elections at this juncture, and the old parliament was summoned to meet on the 9th of June. In the interval, the queen endeavoured to soothe the people into an acquiescence to her measures, by a letter addressed to the parliament, and full of assurances of her protection to the rights of the people, as well as to the interest and independence of the kingdom. However, at the opening of the session, before her majesty's commission was read, the duke of Hamilton, rising in his place, protested against their sitting, and communicated a paper containing his own protest, and that of such members as should adhere to his opinion. He immediately went out of the house followed by 80 members, and the populace in the streets received them with the loudest acclamations. Notwithstanding this important secession, the remaining members, considering themselves as a legal parliament, proceeded to business, and after an adjournment of two days, passed an act recognizing her majesty's royal authority; and another,

declaring the present meeting of parliament to be a lawful and free meeting of parliament, and enacting the penalty of high treason against any person who should disown, quarrel, or impugn their dignity and authority; these acts immediately received the royal assent by being touched with the sceptre. An immediate supply was granted to the queen, and an act was passed, enabling her to appoint commissioners for an union between the two kingdoms; but an overture made by the chancellor, the earl of Marchmont, for the settlement of the crown in the protestant line, and for abjuring the pretended prince of Wales, was rejected, without being supported even by the court-party, as the commissioner, the duke of Queensbury, had no instructions how to act on the occasion. It was supposed that the queen and her English ministry intended to keep the succession open in Scotland, as a check upon the whigs and the house of Hanover.

The Scottish parliament was adjourned, June 30th, and the chiefs of the opposite parties hastened to London to make their respective representations to the queen. In the mean time she appointed commissioners for treating about the union. After several meetings they adjusted preliminaries, importing, that nothing agreed on among themselves should be binding, unless after being ratified by her majesty and the respective parliaments of both nations; and that unless all the heads proposed for the treaty were agreed to, no particular point agreed on should be binding. They agreed also, that the two kingdoms should be inseparably united into one monarchy, under her majesty, her heirs and successors, and under the same limitations, according to the acts of settlement; but when the Scottish commissioners proposed that the rights and privileges of their company, trading to Africa and the Indies, should be preserved and maintained, such a

difficulty arose as could not be surmounted, and no further progress was made in this commission.

During these transactions the campaign was open on the continent, and attended with various successes. The town of Keiserswaert surrendered to the allies after a siege of two months, and a desperate defence from the garrison. The besiegers had nearly 3000 men killed or wounded in the last general attack, commanded by the gallant prince of Nassau Saarburch, who performed prodigies of valour. Landau was soon after besieged.

Such was the state of the campaign when Marlborough arrived at the Hague, towards the middle of May. The states-general having appointed him generalissimo of all their forces, he went to Breda, gave the necessary orders for drawing the army together, and at the head of it marched forward with a view of engaging a decisive action against the French, commanded by the duke of Burgundy, who retreated, as the allies advanced with much superior forces, and pursued him so close that he was obliged to abandon the Spanish Guelderland, which was left to the discretion of the confederates. The duke of Burgundy finding this retrograde march little suitable to his dignity, left the command to mareschal Boufflers, and returned to Versailles, while Marlborough dispossessed the enemy of the places and forts whereby the navigation of the Maese was interrupted. He took Venlo, Fort St. Michael, Ruremonde, and Liege. Landau surrendered after a siege of nearly four months.

On the other hand, the duke of Bavaria, allied to the French king, surprised Ulm, in Suabia; the marquis de Villars, who had been detached from the army of mareschal Catinat, took the town of Newburgh, and fell upon the prince of Baden while he was retreating from his camp near Fridlinguen;

and compelled him to retreat after having lost 2000 men, his baggage, artillery, and ammunition. The French army, after they had gained the battle, were unaccountably seized with such a panic, that if the prince had faced them he would have snatched the victory from the marquis de Villars, to whom the town of Fridlinguen surrendered on the following day; count Tallard, with a body of 18,000 men, reduced Treves and Traerbach; and the prince of Hesse-Cassel, with a detachment from the allied army, retook the towns of Zinch, Lintz, Brisac, and Andernach.

When the army broke up in November, Marlborough repaired to Maestricht, from whence he intended to return by water to the Hague. He accordingly embarked in a large boat with 25 soldiers. The next day he was joined by a large vessel with 60 men, and they were moreover escorted by 50 troopers, who rode along the bank of the river. The large boat outsailed the vessel, and the horsemen mistook their way in the dark. A French partisan, with 35 men, from Guelders, who lurked among the rushes in search for prey, seized the rope of the boat, hauled it ashore, discharged their small arms and hand-grenades, then rushing into it, secured the soldiers before they could put themselves in a posture of defence. Fortunately, the earl happened to have in his pocket an old passport of his brother, general Churchill, he boldly produced it, and the partisan was in such confusion that he never examined the date. Nevertheless he rifled the whole baggage, carried over the guard as prisoners, and allowed the boat to proceed; so that the earl arrived at the Hague at the very moment when the states-general, who had received imperfect accounts of his having been surprised and conveyed to Guelders, hastily assembled all their forces to

march to that place, and threaten the garrison with the utmost extremities, unless they would immediately deliver the general.

In Italy, the duke de Vendome having compelled prince Eugene to raise the siege of Mantua, took possession of Guastalla and Luzara.

The naval operations did not fully answer the expectations of the allies. Sir John Munden, sent with 12 ships to intercept a French squadron appointed as a convoy to a new viceroy of Mexico, did not prevent them from getting into Corunna, nor attacked them there, though he came up with them with a superior force. On his return to St. Helen's, he was tried by a court-martial, and acquitted. But as this miscarriage had rendered him very unpopular, the queen dismissed him from the service. An attack was attempted against Cadiz by the combined fleets, amounting to 50 ships of the line, exclusive of frigates, fire-ships, and smaller vessels, under the command of admiral Rooke, and carrying 12,000 troops on board, commanded by the duke of Ormond, who was at the head of the expedition. A battery was raised against the fort of Matagorda, but the attempt miscarried, and the troops were re-embarked, September 14th, after they had scandalously plundered port St. Mary's. This failure was gloriously compensated towards the middle of the next month by a most successful attack of the French fleet just arrived at Vigo, under the command of count de Chateaurenaud, and consisting of 30 men of war and 22 galleons, coming from Mexico. The duke of Ormond, having landed 2500 men, took possession of the fort at the entrance of the harbour, of a platform of 38 pieces of cannon, and of the castle, while admiral Rooke with his squadron forced his way through a strong boom which defended the harbour. After a very vigorous engagement, the French finding them-

selves unable to resist, count de Chateaurenaud ordered his ship to be set on fire, and his example was followed by all the rest ; the English and Dutch endeavoured to extinguish the flames ; but, upon the whole, eight men of war were burnt, seven sunk, six taken by the Dutch, and four by the English ; nine galleons fell into the hands of the combined fleet, and the rest, as well as some fire-ships and advice boats, were sunk or destroyed. Though the greatest part of the treasure on board the galleons had been removed by the enemy, the English and Dutch made an immense booty. The duke of Ormond returned to England, where he was received with great marks of favour by the queen, and with the loud acclamations of the people.

This glorious achievement was disgracefully contrasted by the conduct of almost all the officers of a squadron of ten sail, sent to the West-Indies under the command of admiral Benbow, a rough unpolished seaman, but remarkably brave, honest, and experienced. In an engagement with the French admiral Ducasse, which lasted four days, till Benbow's ship was entirely disabled, he was shamefully abandoned by almost all his captains. Five of them were brought to their trial before a council of war ; two were condemned to death, two suspended, and the fifth was cashiered and imprisoned. They were convicted of having signed a paper, that they would not fight under Benbow's command : his boisterous manner had produced this criminal conspiracy.

Though the continuance of the parliament was limited to six months after the king's decease, the queen dissolved it before the term was expired, and issued writs for electing another. The government did not want to interfere in the elections, her majesty's inclination to the tories being known, it was

taken for granted that she wished they had the majority, and her popularity so far turned the tide, that in the house of commons they were at least double the number of the whigs. Parliament met October 20th. The queen declared in her speech, "That she had met with so many expressions of joy and satisfaction in all the counties through which she had lately had occasion to pass, that she could not but look upon them as a true measure of the duty and affection of the rest of her subjects." She desired the commons would inspect the public accounts, that if any abuses had crept into the management of the finances, they might be detected, and the offenders punished. "I am firmly persuaded," added she, "that the love of my subjects is the surest pledge of their duty and obedience, as well as the truest and justest support of the throne. . . . So I rely upon your care of me; my interests and yours are inseparable; and my endeavours shall never be wanting to make you all safe and happy." The addresses of both houses were expressive of their warmest affection and gratitude for their beloved sovereign, and all the demands of government were readily granted. They voted 40,000 seamen, 33,000 foot, 7000 horse and dragoons, 350,000*l.* for guards and garrisons, 70,973*l.* for ordnance, 833,826*l.* for the pay of the land forces, and 51,843*l.* for subsidies to the allies.

The strength of the tories conspicuously appeared, not only in the enquiries respecting controverted elections, which were all determined in their favour, but more particularly in the debates on a sentence of the address of the commons, importing, that "the progress of her majesty's arms, under the conduct of the earl of Marlborough, had signally *retrieved* the ancient honour and glory of the English nation." The whigs pretending that

the word *retrieved* implied an undeserved censure against the memory of king William, proposed the word *maintained*, and strenuously insisted on the change; but the word *retrieved* was carried by a majority of 180 against 80.

At the beginning of the session a complaint was made by sir John Packington against the bishop of Worcester for endeavouring to prevent his election. The commons, on this occasion, addressed her majesty to remove that prelate from the office of lord almoner. The lords, offended at this proceeding, as tending to the punishment of one of their members, without his being heard in his defence and found guilty, presented a counter address to her majesty, who answered them, that though she had not yet received any proof of the complaint against the bishop of Worcester, she considered it as her undoubted right to continue or displace any of her servants at pleasure; and as her pleasure was to gratify the commons, over whom she wanted to preserve her present influence, she complied with their demand. They, in return, complied with the same readiness with a message of her majesty in favour of the prince of Denmark, and resolved that a yearly sum of 100,000*l.* should be settled on him, should he happen to survive her majesty.

The earl of Marlborough, on his return from the army, had received the thanks of the commons for his great and signal service; the queen had created him a duke, and granted him a pension of 5000*l.* upon the revenue of the post office during her own life; and now in a message to the commons she expressed a desire that they would find some means to settle it on the heirs-male of his body. This message was received at first with astonishment and silence. A violent debate ensued, much was said of Marlborough's merit; but it was observed that he had been very well paid for his services by the

profitable employments which he and his duchess enjoyed; and though the queen, at his request, had withdrawn her message, the commons voted an address to inform her majesty, that the motive of their non-compliance, was their apprehension of making a precedent to alienate the revenue of the crown, already so much reduced by the exorbitant grants of the late reign. These proceedings were the less expected by the duke, that he had been hitherto connected with the tories, who carried every thing in the house of commons, affecting to distinguish themselves as the only true friends to the church and monarchy.

Ann. 1703.

In the beginning of January the queen informed the commons by a message, that the states-general had renewed their applications to her majesty to assist them with an augmentation of her forces, as the only means to oppose effectually the great preparations of the French. Upon which the commons voted an additional force of 10,000 men, to act in conjunction with the allies; but upon condition that all commerce and correspondence of the states-general with France and Spain should be immediately stopped, which was readily complied with.

At this juncture the tories, with a view of checking the power of the opposite party which predominated in the upper-house, prevailed upon the house of commons to pass a bill to prevent *occasional conformity*, an evasion of the law by which the dissenters, who constituted a great part of the whig faction, might insinuate themselves in the management of all corporations, by taking the oaths as prescribed by the law, and returning immediately to their schismatical doctrines. Though the lords did not

reject the bill, they made several amendments, to which the commons would not yield. A conference between the two houses produced nothing but a more obstinate adherence on both sides to their respective opinions; they agreed only in ordering their proceedings upon the whole affair to be printed, and the bill was dropt. Such was likewise the only issue of the violent debates and discord which arose between the two houses, respecting the inquiry into the public accounts, and the flagrant mismanagement which the commissioners pretended to have discovered in that branch of the administration. The queen put an end to the contest by proroguing the parliament, February 27th; and as the parties in the house of lords were nearly matched, she created four new peers in order to secure a majority to the government in the next session.

At this time the earl of Rochester, displeased at the preference which the duke of Marlborough and lord Godolphin had in the queen's confidence, resigned his place of lord lieutenant in Ireland, and withdrew from the councils.

The convocation which was summoned with the parliament bore a strong affinity with this assembly, by the differences which arose between their house of lords [the archbishops and bishops] and the lower house, about their respective pretensions. The bishops proposed, that in the intervals of sessions, the lower house might appoint committees to prepare matters, and when business was brought regularly before them, the archbishops would so order the prorogations that they might have sufficient time to sit and deliberate about it; but the lower house insisted on the right to hold intermediate assemblies, and continue to act as a house in the intervals of prorogations. They presented a petition to her majesty, begging that she would call the question into her own royal audience. The queen

promised to consider their demand, and send them an answer as soon as she could. The judges and the council were ordered to examine how the matter stood in point of law. What opinion the lawyers came to, was kept a secret, and the matter was at a full stand when the session came to an end by the prorogation of the parliament. From these disputes the whole body of the clergy was divided between two parties, distinguished by the names of High Church and Lower Church. Those who treated the dissenters with moderation, and were for residing constantly at their cures, expressing a great zeal against the prince of Wales, and for the revolution, were represented as ill-affected to the church, and secret favourers of presbytery, and were called *low church-men*.

The tories, both in church and state, now triumphed in the favour of their sovereign; and her authority, powerfully supported by the affection of her subjects, was still further consolidated by the impression generally produced by the history of the rebellion written by her grandfather the earl of Clarendon, and published just now for the first time, to inculcate the principles of obedience, and inspire the people with an abhorrence of opposition to an anointed sovereign. Her majesty's hereditary right was deduced from Edward the confessor, and as heir of his renowned sanctity and virtue, as well as of all his royal prerogatives, she was persuaded to touch persons afflicted with the king's evil, according to the office inserted in the liturgy for this occasion.

These circumstances reviving the hopes of the court of St. Germain, they resolved to try how far they might depend on the professions they had continued to receive from their pretended friends in England, particularly from the duke of Marlborough and lord Godolphin. The latter, though timid in

his councils, was a man of abilities, and uniformly attached to the excluded branch of the royal family. Marlborough, whose great influence in the measures of the court was known, being invested besides with the command of the army, held in great measure in his own hands the fate of the Stuarts' dynasty. The prince of Wales, therefore, endeavoured through his emissaries to induce him to enter into an immediate treaty, the terms of which were to leave queen Anne in possession of the crown during her own life, provided she would leave the succession to her brother at her death, and cause accordingly the act of settlement to be repealed, a thing which in the present disposition of parliament, was less impracticable than ever.

It was not to be supposed that she would obstruct the eventual succession of her brother, whose restoration she owed to her own glory, to the memory of her father, and her solemn engagements to that prince, whose interests she must have more at heart than those of the most distant relation she had in the world. To facilitate the execution of this scheme, the prince's emissaries insinuated, that the putting him in immediate possession of the crown of Scotland, would be the most effectual means for securing him the eventual succession of the crown of England, a decisive measure, which would be attended with little difficulty, considering that the majority of parliament in the two kingdoms were apparently well affected to the regular hereditary succession to the throne. (*Stuart Original Papers*, 1703. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. i. pp. 623-24.)

In order to engage the ambition and interest of the duke himself in this extraordinary project, colonel Sackville, who had during the late reign carried on the correspondence between Marlborough and the court of St. Germain, and who had always

free access to him, proposed a marriage between his third daughter and the prince of Wales, a proposition the more advantageous to the duke, that having lost his only son, he had no prospect of transmitting his name to posterity through the male line. How Marlborough received the proposal is uncertain; but it appears that the negotiation ended not with the present year, and that the adherents of the family of Hanover, either apprised of this projected connection, or willing to gain to their own party the important support of Marlborough's influence, proposed the marriage of his daughter with the electoral prince, George II. The tories, and especially the Jacobite part of the ministry, were so much alarmed at this circumstance, that they even intended to solicit the queen herself to propose the match between her brother and the duke's daughter. (*Stuart Papers*, 1703. *Macpherson's Original Papers*.)

The projects for restoring the succession in the male line of the Stuart dynasty were forwarded with more openness in Scotland, particularly when the old parliament and the old ministry, who had ever been considered in the light of whigs, were dissolved. The Jacobites had the majority in the new ministry, and they likewise procured more members swayed by high principles for monarchy than had been known in any parliament since the restoration of Charles II. The Jacobites among them were divided in two different classes, the open and avowed Jacobites, who made no secret of their attachment to the prince, and the country party, who covered their designs in his favour under the specious pretence of insisting upon the redress of the grievances under which the nation had laboured under the preceding reign. The first were led by the earl of Home. The duke of Hamilton, the acknowledged head of the country party, had not de-

viated from his attachment to the cause of James I. and now received from the court of St. Germain secret instructions, which he followed implicitly in his public conduct. The points chiefly recommended to him were to oppose with all the power of his influence, abilities, and address, the bill of abjuration, the succession of the family of Hanover, and the union of the two kingdoms. (*Stuart Papers*, 1703. *Macpherson, ibid.*)

The duke of Argyle and the earl of Marchmont, the leaders of those who affected to adhere to the principles of the revolution, being informed that the Jacobites intended to move for granting the supply and the demands of the crown, had the address, not only to frustrate the overture, but even to detach the queen's commissioner, the duke of Queensbury, from the country party, by dexterously insinuating into his mind such a jealousy of the growing weight of the duke of Hamilton, that he deserted at once his own professions and the interests of the country party. It was accordingly agreed, that in order to defeat the motion respecting the supply, it should be proposed in the house, that previous to any other business the parliament should proceed to settle the form of government, and regulations in the constitution of the kingdom, to take place after the demise of her majesty. On a debate concerning the competition between this motion and the consideration of the supply, the party who supported the first prevailed, and the marquis of Athol proposed an act for the security of the kingdom in case of her majesty's decease. This important business filled the greatest part of the session with violent debates.

It was stipulated by this *Act of Security*, that on the 20th day after the queen's decease, the estates of parliament should meet; and that in the intermediate time the executive government should devolve

on such members of the house as should happen to come to Edinburgh. It was provided that no papists should be members; that no Englishman or foreigner, enjoying a title in Scotland, and not possessed of 1000*l.* yearly rent in that kingdom, should be capable of either sitting or voting in the parliament to be convened in the terms of the act. It was provided by an additional clause, that the successor, whose nomination was left to the estates of parliament, should not be a successor to the crown of England, unless such conditions of government should be settled in the session of parliament, as should secure the honour of the kingdom, the independence of the crown, the freedom, frequency, and power of parliaments, and the religion, liberty, and trade of the Scottish nation from English or foreign influence. Towards the end of the session, the earl of Marchmont proposed an act for settling the succession on the house of Hanover, and it was ordered to be read; but at the bare mention of princess Sophia's name, the house flew at once into a flame. Some moved that the proposed act should be publicly burnt; others were for calling Marchmont to the bar, and many for sending him prisoner to the castle of Edinburgh. The act was not only unanimously rejected, but it was carried by a majority of fifty-seven that the very mention of it should be expunged from the minutes of parliament.

The queen's commissioner repeatedly solicited to give the royal assent to the act of security; and clearly perceiving, from the violent animosity which generally prevailed, that evasive answers could not be longer resorted to, without danger, even for his personal security, he came to the house, and informed them that he had received her majesty's orders, and was now fully empowered to give the royal assent to every act, excepting only to that

called an act for the security of the kingdom. At these words many members arose all at once, and successively inveighed, in the bitterest terms, against the servants of the crown, who were called the slaves of the English ministry, and the calumniators of the Scotch parliament. Some denied that the right of a negative was inherent in the crown. During these uncommon heats, no supply of any kind was granted, nor even allowed to be proposed. The whole nation were interested spectators of a contest which, they were taught to believe, was to determine their independence as a free people, or to subject them for ever to these foreign councils to which they had ascribed the late misfortunes of the kingdom. The eagerness of the parliament was in unison with that of the populace. The commissioner still insisting on the supply, was answered, that if there was no other way of supporting the natural and undeniable privilege of parliament, the friends of their country were resolved to demand justice with their swords in their hands. A general discontent transported the house into such a degree of fury, that the commissioner, apprehensive for the safety of his own person, suddenly prorogued this refractory parliament, after having given the royal assent to all the bills that were ready; and among the rest, to an act of limitation on the successor, in which it was declared that no king or queen of Scotland should have power to make war or peace without the consent of parliament. The commission for treating of an union with England, was vacated with a prohibition to grant any other commission for that purpose without consent of parliament. The queen revived the order of the Thistle, which the late king had dropped, and conferred titles upon those who appeared to have influence in the nation, and attachment to her government. The number of the knights of the Thistle was limited to

twelve. The dukes of Argyle and Athol, the marquis of Armendale, and the earls of Orkney and Seafield, were the first honoured with it.

Affairs went on more favourably in Ireland. The duke of Ormond succeeding to the earl of Rochester as lord-lieutenant, was received at first with open arms, as heir to the virtues of his ancestors. The commons, in a representation of their grievances and misfortunes, stated that the constitution of Ireland had been of late greatly shaken, their lives, liberties and estates, called into question and tried, in a manner hitherto unknown; that the expences to which they had been unnecessarily exposed by the late trustees for the forfeited estates, in defending their just rights and titles, had exceeded in value the current cash of the kingdom, that their trade and manufactures were completely decayed; they declared that, from her majesty's gracious interposition alone, they expected to be relieved from those manifold calamities. The commons afterwards voted the necessary supplies, and granted 150,000*l.* to make good the deficiencies of the necessary branches of the establishment. They passed an act settling the succession of the crown, such as it had been voted by the English parliament. In order to prevent the growth of popery, they passed a severe bill, enacting that all estates of papists should be equally divided among their children, notwithstanding any settlements to the contrary, unless the persons on whom they were settled, qualified themselves by taking the oaths, and coming to the communion of the church. But while the house continued to exert itself with great zeal against popery, the duke of Ormond put an end to the debate by adjourning the parliament. The commons were so highly displeased at this sudden adjournment, and the session ended in so much heat, that it was thought the parliament would meet

no more, if the duke of Ormond, who was severely reflected upon, was continued in the government.

During these transactions the war was carried on with unabating vigour between the allies and Louis XIV. but did not produce any event of a decisive nature. The successes were nearly divided, and upon the whole, the campaign was rather favourable to the French. The progress of the elector of Bavaria in the heart of Germany, had reduced the family of Austria into great straits, while at the same time, an insurrection in Hungary spread devastation to the gates of Vienna. In Italy, the desertion of the Duke of Savoy had not hitherto produced any favourable change for the Emperor, and his arms were not attended with a better fortune on the Upper Rhine. The letter, or rather the challenge, which Louis XIV. addressed to the duke of Savoy this occasion, is a remarkable specimen of his supercilious style.

“ Sir,

“ Since neither religion, honour, interest,
“ alliances, nor even your own hand writing are
“ of any force between us, I send my cousin, the
“ duke of Vendome, at the head of my armies, to
“ make known to you my intentions. He will
“ allow you but four-and-twenty hours to resolve
“ what you have to do.”

In Flanders, the duke of Marlborough sat down, with little interruption, before some places of considerable strength, and gloriously maintained his reputation by their conquest. However, the progress made by the allies was inconsiderable, and they completely failed in their attempts on the strong lines formed by the enemy for the protection of Flanders. On the other hand, Offemburgh, Rastadt, the fort of Kell, Old Brisac, and Landau, had been taken by the French; Ratisbonne and Neuburgh by the

elector of Bavaria; and count Stirum had been completely defeated near Hockstet.

The naval expeditions were still less favourable to the allies, and clearly evinced the incapacity of those who directed them. Prince George, lord high admiral of England, understood very little of those matters, and was easily imposed on by men of bad designs. Powerful fleets sailed out of the English harbours, and soon after came back, without having effected or even attempted any thing worth noticing.

The emperor's second son, archduke of Austria, is declared and proclaimed king of Spain, at Vienna, September 12th, under the name of Charles III. The campaign in Flanders being at an end, the duke of Marlborough returns to England, October 30th, and on the 9th of November a new session of parliament is opened. The queen, in her speech to both houses, desires supplies, to enable her to perform her engagements with the king of Portugal and the duke of Savoy, who had acceded to the *grand alliance*. The commons resolve that the 50,000 men that acted in conjunction with the allies in the last campaign, shall continue another year; that the proportion of land forces to act in conjunction with Portugal, shall be 8000 men, and that 40,000 men, including 5000 marines, shall be employed on board the fleet.

On the 26th of November, about midnight, broke out, both by sea and land, the most violent storm that had ever been known in the memory of man. It carried off the roofs of many houses and churches, blew down the spires of several steeples, and an immense number of chimnies. The city of London was so shaken with it, that people were generally afraid of being buried in the ruins of their houses; and such was unfortunately the case of many, and among the rest, of the bishop of Bath

and Wells, and his wife, who were killed by the fall of part of the episcopal palace at Wells. The damage in the city of London only, was computed at nearly two millions; and at Bristol, about 200,000*l*. fourteen or fifteen men of war were cast away, and 1500 of their crew perished.

Upon this calamity the commons addressed the queen, that she would give directions for repairing this loss, and building an adequate number of capital ships, assuring her majesty that at their next meeting the house would effectually make good that expence.

Charles III. when at Dusseldorf, was met by the duke of Marlborough, who, in the name of the queen, congratulated him on his accession to the Spanish crown. In answer to the compliment, the prince, taking a rich sword from his side, gracefully presented the duke with it, saying in French, "I am not ashamed to confess I am but a poor prince; I have only my cloke and my sword: the latter may be of use to you, and I hope you will not think it the worse for my wearing it one day."

About the end of December, Charles III. arrived in England, and had an interview with the queen at Windsor, where he was received with great magnificence. A fleet was fitted out with all possible activity to carry him to Portugal, so that he set sail in the beginning of January, but he was so long detained by contrary winds, that he did not arrive at Lisbon till the end of February.

The bill against occasional conformity, was revived with some alterations, and passed in the house of commons, but was rejected at the second reading in the upper house.

The queen, after giving the royal assent to the land-tax, addressed both houses with a speech, wherein she acquainted them with a plot carried on

in Scotland by emissaries from France, which she designed to lay before them as soon as the examinations were perfected. The day following, the lords appointed a select committee to examine the persons suspected. The commons being now in an ill-humour against the upper house, seized this occasion to vent it by representing to the queen that by appointing a select committee to examine persons taken into custody by her messengers, the lords, in violation to the known laws of the land, had openly encroached on her prerogative, of which they earnestly desired her majesty to suffer no diminution, promising to support her to the utmost of their power in her just exercise of it.

Ann. 1704.

The address of the commons against the lords, was a complete deviation from the parliamentary method hitherto observed, which consisted in demanding conferences of members of both houses, wherein matters were freely debated, when one house was offended at any thing done in the other. But to begin by an appeal to the throne was an unprecedented proceeding, which might be managed by an ill-designing prince, so as to endanger materially the whole constitution. Moreover, there were many recent instances, especially in the popish plot, of precedents in both houses, that went much farther than the proceedings of the lords in this circumstance. They therefore easily succeeded in vindicating their honour, and asserting their privileges in an address to the queen, one of the best pieces of this kind to be found in the records of parliament.

These dissensions between the two houses were still heightened by a further quarrel concerning the right of determining controverted elections. The

commons resolved that the right of an elector to vote was cognizable only in their house, and ordered their resolution to be posted up on Westminster-hall gate. The lords on the contrary resolved in the case of Ashby and White, that if any elector's vote was refused, he had a right to bring his action, and that the commons in deterring people from bringing their actions, hindered the course of justice; as the prerogative exclusively enjoyed by the commons to decide upon the validity of the elections, had nothing in common with awarding on the very right of voting in the elections, an original right founded on legal titles, and as such, cognizable only by a court of law. The decision of the lords being grounded on this just and popular principle, prevailed, and they ordered a copy of the case and of their resolution to be sent to all the sheriffs of England, to be communicated to all the boroughs in their counties.

The queen taking into consideration the mean and insufficient maintenance allowed to the clergy in divers parts of the kingdom, raises it, by granting to the smaller livings her whole revenue arising out of the *first-fruits and tenths*, an imposition established by the popes in the times of the holy wars, and settled for ever as a part of the income of the crown from the reign of Henry VIII. after the reformation. The queen closed the session on the 3rd of April.

The convocation sitting again this winter with the parliament, they were divided as before. The lower house renewed all its former complaints with no better success. The archbishop told them only that orders were given for making out copies of their representation, and that a proper use should be made of it, especially at visitations.

The duke of Marlborough goes over to Holland January 5th, and returns to London February 14th,

after having settled with the deputies of the states-general the plan of the next campaign, one of the most memorable in the records of history, as it completely changed the face of Europe, rescued the emperor from the most deplorable situation, turned the whole seat of the war against the house of Bourbon, and entirely overthrew the power of the elector of Bavaria, who possessed all the places on the Danube as far as Passau, and even threatened Vienna, which must have been infallibly lost, had the insurgents in Hungary acted in concert with the Bavarians.

Those renowned achievements, the particulars of which would far exceed the limits of this work, were due, not only to the wonderful abilities, courage, and activity of the duke of Marlborough, but in great measure to the skilfulness of his plans, and to the great secrecy under which he masked or concealed all his measures till the very moment of execution. In the month of April, he embarked for Holland accompanied by his brother, general Churchill, and other officers of distinction; and after a long conference with a deputation of the states-general, he left the Hague on the fifth of May with the apparent resolution of carrying the war to the banks of the Moselle, to penetrate into France, while all his preparations had been secretly made for the real expedition to Bavaria and the Danube. The French generals, far from suspecting it, were convinced that the duke's design was to open the campaign on the Moselle, and sent accordingly a strong detachment to that river, and gave out that they intended to invest Huy, imagining by this report to stop the progress of the English army. The duke paying little attention to it, continued his march with unwearied diligence, crossed the Neckar and proceeded to Mindelheim, where he was visited by prince Eugene, and from the conge-

nality of their talents, they immediately contracted an intimate friendship. Prince Louis of Baden met them next day, when those three celebrated generals definitively agreed on the respective parts that each of them would act in the operations of the campaign.

On the 1st day of July, Marlborough was in sight of the enemy's entrenchments at Dettingen, and understanding that the best part of the Bavarian infantry were posted behind strong lines at Schellenberg, he marched immediately to attack them, and after an obstinate resistance, forced their lines, and routed them with great slaughter. They fled to Donauwert with the utmost precipitation, leaving 6000 men dead on the field of battle, 16 pieces of cannon, 13 pair of colours with all the tents and baggage. The allies advanced within a league of Augsburg, and finding the elector of Bavaria too securely posted under the cannon of that city to be attacked with any prospect of success, they took such a position as to cut off all communication between him and his dominions, and having reduced him to this situation, the duke of Marlborough proposed to him very advantageous terms of peace, provided he would abandon the French interest and join the Imperialists in Italy. He seemed ready to sign the articles, when hearing that mareschal Tallard was coming with a great body of forces to join him, he declared that he thought himself obliged in honour to continue in his alliance with France.

The generals of the allies, exasperated at this disappointment, send out detachments to ravage the country of Bavaria as far as Munich; upwards of 300 towns, villages, or castles are inhumanly destroyed without any regard to the complaints of the elector against acts of barbarity no less opposite to true glory than to humanity. Mareschal Tallard

joins the elector on the 5th day of August ; they resolve to pass the Danube at Lawingen and to encamp at Blenheim. They take an advantageous position on a hill near Hockstet, their right being covered by the Danube and the village of Blenheim, their left by the village of Lutzingen, and their front by a rivulet, the banks of which were steep, and the bottom marshy. Notwithstanding these difficulties, prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough resolve to attack them immediately.

On the 19th of August, a day which decided the elector's fate by the loss of all his country, the whole confederate army advanced to the plain, and were drawn up in order of battle ; prince Eugene and the imperial general officers were on the right, general Churchill with the rest of the English and Dutch generals were on the left, and the duke of Marlborough in the centre commanded the whole, and obtained that famous victory of Blenheim, one of the most complete and glorious that ever was recorded in the military annals. The French and Bavarian army consisted of 60,000 men, while that of the allies did not exceed 55,000. Ten thousand French and Bavarians were left dead on the field of battle ; the greater part of thirty squadrons of horse and dragoons were forced into the Danube, most of whom perished. Thirteen thousand were made prisoners, and among them marshal Tallard. One hundred pieces of cannon were taken, with 24 mortars, 129 colours, 171 standards, 17 pairs of kettle-drums, 3600 tents, 34 coaches, 300 laden mules, 2 bridges of boats, 15 pontoons, 24 barrels, and 8 casks of silver. But this success cost them 4485 men killed, 7525 wounded, and 273 missing or made prisoners.

The result of the battle of Blenheim put into the hands of the victors an extent of 70 leagues of country, which felt all the calamities attending upon

conquest. The French, broken and dispersed, left a free and uninterrupted march to the confederates, who crossed the Rhine, entered Alsace, and before the end of the campaign took Landau and Traerbach. In the mean time the duke of Marlborough repaired to Berlin, where he negotiated for a reinforcement of 8000 Prussians to serve under prince Eugene in Italy, during the next campaign.

The emperor recovered from the most critical situation by the victories of Marlborough, and rewarded this signal service by making him a prince of the empire, with the consent of the queen, and about a year after Mindelheim confiscated in Bavaria, was erected into a principality of the Roman empire, and assigned to him; he was admitted in virtue of this title to a seat and vote in the diet, Sept. 13th, 1706; but the principality and the vote annexed to it were extinguished by the peace of Baden.

The campaign in Flanders being merely defensive on both sides, produced no event of importance. The archduke Charles, who had assumed the title of king of Spain, and landed at Lisbon with 8000 English and Dutch troops, made an unsuccessful attempt to invade Castile, and could not prevent Philip V. (strengthened with an army of 20,000 French, commanded by the duke of Berwick,) from carrying the war into Portugal, where he took several places. The campaign in Italy proved upon the whole unfavourable to the confederates. Suza, Pignerol, Verceil, the city, the citadel, and the castle of Yvrea fell into the hands of the French commanded by the duke of Vendome, who invaded likewise all the dominions of the duke of Modena.

The sea occurrences were undoubtedly in favour of England, and the most conspicuous was the reduction of Gibraltar, which Philip V. vainly attempted to retake: this important fortress has ever since remained an honourable part of the English domi-

nions, though less useful than gratifying to that national pride which it is, perhaps, wiser to indulge than to repress in a rich and powerful country.

Marlborough having settled all matters relating to the ensuing campaign, embarked for England, and arrived in London December 11th. He found a general joy diffused over the nation on account of the splendid success he had obtained. A day of thanksgiving was appointed on the occasion, and the queen herself attended the procession to St. Paul's with the greatest pomp. His enemies, who, notwithstanding his signal services, had prepared their batteries to attack him with advantage, saw in an instant all their schemes levelled to the ground by the torrent of his glory; and the hero, whom foreign princes vied with one another to honour abroad, became at home the idol of a nation ever fond of military fame.

Marlborough, however, though he had lately appeared to have entirely abandoned the interests of the Stuart dynasty, still maintained, as well as Godolphin, a secret connection, and encouraged private interviews with the agents of the court of St. Germain. The duke, though perhaps not so sincere in his professions as Godolphin, was less guarded in his conduct. In the month of April, when he was preparing to break the power of France in Germany, he regretted that his nephew the duke of Berwick was employed in Portugal, as he ought to be nearer England to take advantage of such events as might occur in favour of the prince of Wales. He gave at the same time the most solemn assurances of his unalterable fidelity and attachment to the excluded family, and directed their agents to apply to lord Godolphin upon any emergency that might arise in his own absence during the campaign. (*Stuart Papers, April 22nd, 1704; Macpherson's Original Papers, vol. i. p. 672.*)

During the important operations which were to decide the fate of all Europe, the Scottish country-party, inflamed at the interference of the English house of lords, with a plot supposed to have existed in Scotland, joined themselves more closely with that party, whose almost avowed intentions were to support the interests of the family of Stuart. In this state of affairs the session of the Scottish parliament was opened at Edinburgh, July 6th, by the marquis of Tweeddale, who had succeeded the duke of Queensbury in the office of lord high commissioner to the parliament. The queen recommended in her letter the settlement of the succession in the protestant line; and demanded an immediate supply for maintaining the civil and military establishment of the kingdom. The commissioner, the chancellor, and the secretary of state, supported as usual these demands, by a succession of formal speeches; but their eloquence produced so little effect, that a motion was immediately made, "That the house, without naming a successor, should stand by and defend her majesty's person and government; but that the house should agree on such conditions and limitations, to take effect after the queen's death, as should effectually defend Scotland against all English influence." The house having adjourned without debate on the motion, the duke of Hamilton proposed, a few days after, that the parliament should not proceed to name a successor to the crown, until the Scots should conclude a treaty with England respecting their commerce and other important concerns.

The eagerness with which these motions were received, convinced the queen that her project for settling the succession could never pass, nor any subsidy be granted until she had allayed the ferment which had prevailed in Scotland ever since she had refused her assent to the act of security; she re-

solved accordingly, to gratify the nation upon that subject, particularly when she knew that the parliament had tacked the act of security to the supply-bill by the following vote ; " That the parliament " will proceed to grant two months supply for subsisting her majesty's forces, and as soon as the act " of security, now read, has got the royal assent, " will give four months more." This new act of security was in substance nearly the same as the former. It was provided by it, " That should the " queen die without issue, a parliament should presently meet and declare the successor to the crown, " who should not be the same person as was possessed of the crown of England, unless before " that time there should be a settlement made in " parliament of the rights and liberties of the nation independant on English councils." By another clause it was made lawful to arm the subjects, to train and put them in a posture of defence. The royal assent being given to this act, a six months supply was granted for the pay of the army, and the parliament were entering upon debates about the plot and proceedings of the English house of lords in that affair, as an undue intermeddling with their concerns, and an encroachment upon the sovereignty and independency of their nation, when the high commissioner told them that he was not allowed to give them any more time, but that they should soon have an opportunity of doing what still remained to be done ; he accordingly prorogued them.

The parliament of England met October 29th ; the queen, having expatiated in her speech on the great and memorable success of the campaign, assured the two houses of her confidence in their affection and eagerness to provide for every thing necessary to prosecute the war with vigour, and timely improve the present advantages, so as to en-

able her to procure a lasting foundation of security for England, and a firm support for the liberty of Europe. Congratulatory addresses were voted and presented by both houses, and a few days after, the commons deliberating upon the different articles of national expence, granted 4,670,436*l.* for the ensuing year, to be raised by a land-tax, by the sale of annuities, and other expedients.

The high-church party took this occasion to revive on a new model, the bill against occasional conformity, which the mover in the house of commons proposed to be tacked to the land-tax bill, which was opposed by a great majority. The bill, however, passed the house of commons, but was again rejected by the upper house.

Debates on the means of obviating the inconveniencies which were likely to arise from the acts lately passed in Scotland. They resolve, 1st, that the queen will name commissioners on the part of England, to treat about an union with Scotland, provided that these powers will be of no effect until the Scottish parliament has appointed commissioners to that purpose on the part of Scotland; 2^{dly}, that no Scotsmen shall enjoy the privileges of Englishmen, except such as are settled in England, Ireland, and the plantations, and such as serve in the English army or navy, until an union is agreed on, or the succession settled as in England; 3^{dly}, that the bringing of cattle from Scotland into England shall be prevented, and that orders shall be given by the admiralty to her majesty's ships, to take such vessels as they shall find trading from Scotland to France, or to the ports of any of her majesty's enemies; and that the exportation of English wool into Scotland shall be carefully hindered; 4^{thly}, that provision shall be made to prevent the importation of Scotch linen into Eng-

land or Ireland, and the conveying of horses, arms, and ammunition from England into Scotland; *also*, that all the protestant freeholders of the six northern counties of England shall be permitted to furnish themselves with arms. This last resolution was suggested by the alarm produced by the clause of the act of security, which enacted, that it was lawful to arm the subjects, and to train them, in order to put them in a posture of defence.

The duke of Marlborough, accompanied by mareschal de Tallard, and twenty-six other prisoners of note, arrives in the Thames, December 14th; and the same day is received at St. James's by the queen with every mark of favour and cordiality. He goes the next day to the house of peers, where he receives the most flattering congratulations. A committee of the house of commons wait upon him with their thanks for his victories, and for the success of his late negotiations. They appoint a day for taking his services into consideration, and address her majesty to find means to perpetuate the memory of his glorious achievements.

Ann. 1704.

The standards and colours taken at Blenheim are set up in Westminster-hall. The queen sends a message to the commons, informing them that she intends to grant the honour and manor of Woodstock, and hundred of Wooton, to the duke of Marlborough and his heirs; and the lieutenancy and rangership of the parks, with the rents and profits of the manors and hundreds, being granted for two lives, her majesty expresses her wish for that incumbrance being removed. Hereupon a bill is passed to enable the queen to accomplish her intentions, and an address is voted, desiring her majesty to advance the money for clearing the incum-

brances. She not only complied with this address, but ordered the comptroller of her works to build in Woodstock-park a magnificent palace for the duke, upon a plan more calculated for solidity than elegance.

While the duke of Marlborough was thus publicly gratified by all parties, he still continued to make secret professions and protestations of zeal for the interests of the excluded family. The duchess of Tyrconnel who knew his connexions with the servants of the prince of Wales, reminding him of his former promises, he answered at first in general terms; but when she urged him to agree on particulars, he solemnly assured her that without descending to circumstances, or fixing the time, he would do every thing which honour and justice demanded at his hands. Lord Godolphin himself, though proscribed by the tories, and affecting the principles and views of the whigs, had at the same time given a proof of the continuance of his zeal for the court of St. Germain, by insinuating that he would search for an opportunity to pay a part at least of the arrears of the jointure due to the exiled queen. (*Stuart Papers, January 4th, 1705. Macpherson's Original Papers, vol. i. p. 695.*)

The remaining part of the session was consumed in violent altercations between the two houses respecting an action brought by five inhabitants of Aylesbury against the constables of that place, for having denied them the right of voting at the election. The commons persevering in their pretension that the cognizance of the matter exclusively belonged to them, had committed these five persons to Newgate; hereupon a motion grounded on the common law had been made in their behalf at the queen's bench for a habeas corpus. But the majority of the judges having given their opinion against the motion, the prisoners had been remand-

ed to Newgate; and two of them, in order to bring the matter before the lords, were now petitioning for a writ of error. The commons, alarmed at it, represented in an address to the queen, that a writ of error in this case would tend to the overthrow of the undoubted rights and privileges of the house. In the mean time they voted all the lawyers who had pleaded on the habeas corpus, guilty of a breach of privilege, and ordered them to be taken into custody, and lest the prisoners should be dismissed by the queen's granting the writ of error, they ordered the petitioners to be removed from Newgate into the custody of their serjeant-at-arms. The prisoners petitioned the lords for relief. The upper house passed six different resolutions against the conduct of the commons, as being an obstruction to justice, and contrary to Magna Charta. A conference took place between the two houses, but proved ineffectual, and both presented their respective addresses to the queen against or for the writ of error. The contest daily increasing in bitterness and violence, her majesty put an end to it by proroguing the parliament, March 14th. Three weeks after it was dissolved by proclamation according to the triennial act.

The two houses of the convocation still continued at variance.

The queen confers the honour of knighthood upon the celebrated Isaac Newton, mathematical professor.

The affairs in Ireland having remained in the same situation since the preceding year, nothing remarkable occurred during the session, except a quarrel between the commons and the lower house of convocation respecting a bill, which for the improvement of the manufactures, had ascertained the tithes of flax and hemp. The convocation presented a memorial requesting the commons that a clause

so detrimental to their interest should not pass till their reasons against it should be heard. The commons ordered the person who had brought the memorial, to be committed for a breach of privilege; and voted that the convocation, by pretending to have any care of the civil rights of the clergy, were guilty of a contempt of the house. The convocation adhering to their memorial, and the commons persevering in their vote, the lord-lieutenant put an end to the dispute by a message to both houses, commanding them to adjourn to the first of May.

During these transactions, the war was carried on with ardour on the continent. The duke of Marlborough took the field in the first week of May, intending to improve the victories of the preceding campaign, by carrying the war by the Moselle into the heart of France. But the mareschal de Villars who commanded the French army consisting of 70,000 men, having been apprized of the duke's plan, took his position on that side, and occupying a strong camp at Sirk, resolved to remain on the defensive. The prince of Baden, who commanded the Imperialists, either from a personal dislike to Marlborough, or unprovided with the means of taking the field, disappointed him in his promise of joining the allies with his army; and thus the duke remained inactive in his camp during a month, in daily hopes of a necessary reinforcement, that never arrived. The death of the emperor Leopold, which happened at that time, (May 6th), did not change the face of affairs, and the duke, tired with waiting in vain for the junction of the German troops, found himself obliged to retreat, and abandon all his magazines and provisions at Treves. One of the most singular circumstances of his retreat, was his addressing an apology for it, not to the queen nor to the states-general, but to the mareschal de Villars, to whom

he sent the following note by a trumpeter. "Do me the justice to believe that my retreat is entirely owing to the failure of the prince of Baden; but that my esteem for you is still greater than my resentment of his conduct."

In the mean time the French and Bavarian army under the command of the elector and the mareschal de Villeroi, had taken Huy, and were on their march to Liege. The states-general, alarmed at the progress of the enemy, requested the duke to hasten to their aid on the side of Flanders. His army was in motion on the 19th of June, and marched with such expedition, that mareschal de Villeroi being informed of his approach, retreated within his lines along the Mehaigne. Marlborough sent a detachment to invest Huy, and prompted by his eagerness to atone by some stroke of importance for his disappointment on the Moselle, he resolved to attack the French lines, and completely succeeded in this enterprise. He took a large heap of standards, four colours, ten pieces of cannon, two lieutenant-generals, one major-general, two brigadier-generals, with many other officers, and a great number of common soldiers. The garrison of Huy surrendered at discretion; the mareschal de Villeroi passed the great Geete and the Dyle with great expedition, and took possession of the strong camp at Park. The next day the confederate army moved, and in their march took about 1200 prisoners, who could not follow the precipitate march of the rest of the French army. Marlborough's design was to attack the French again, before they had time to recover from the consternation which was apparent in their army; but he was obliged to yield to the opposition of general Schlangenbourg and other Dutch commanders, who prevailed on the deputies of the states to refuse to consent to an en-

terprise which they said was neither advisable nor practicable.

The duke being obliged to relinquish the scheme, wrote an expostulatory letter to the states-general, complaining of their having withdrawn that confidence which they had reposed in him while he acted in Germany; and a great resentment prevailed all over England on that occasion. The earl of Pembroke was appointed envoy-extraordinary to Holland, with instructions to demand a satisfaction, which the states thought proper to anticipate, by removing Schlangenburg from his command. In the interval, the little town of Leuve, the chief defence of the lines abandoned by the French, being taken, as well as Tirlemont, the duke ordered these towns to be dismantled, and the lines levelled to the ground. He afterwards gave directions on the fortifications of several places, and set out for Vienna upon the orders he had received from England, in order to concert the operations of the ensuing campaign. On the 24th of October, a detachment of the confederate armies invested Sant-sclit, which surrendered before the end of the month.

The mareschal de Villars, as soon as he was free from all apprehensions of being attacked by the duke of Marlborough, had sent two detachments of his army, one to force the lines of Veissemburgh, and the other to attack Homburgh, on the Upper Rhine; the lines were forced on the 3d of July, and Homburgh surrendered on the 20th; but the mareschal being thus weakened, could not prevent the prince of Baden, who arrived at last in the camp of the imperialists, to force the French lines at Haguenau.

In Italy, the towns of Verue, La Mirandole, and Chivas, were taken by the French. Prince Eugene,

attempting to bring a reinforcement to the duke of Savoy, attacked the bridge of Cassano, on the Adda, and was repulsed, after an obstinate and bloody action, in which he was wounded. The duke de Vendome, who commanded the French army, had a horse killed under him. All the considerable places belonging to the duke of Savoy, were now taken, except Coni and Turin, and his little army was reduced to 12,000 men, whom he could hardly support.

In Spain, the mareschal de Tessé was obliged to raise the siege of Gibraltar, notwithstanding all the attempts made by sea by admiral de Pointis to support him. The Portuguese took Salvaterra, Valencia of Alcantara, and Albuquerque. Gironna declared for the Archduke Charles, who being powerfully seconded by the celebrated earl of Peterborough, reduced Barcelona. All the principal places in Catalonia acknowledged him for their king, except Roses. Thus the advantage obtained by the allies in Spain, compensated, in great measure, those of the French in Italy: but there was no compensation at sea for the loss of the Baltic fleet, homeward bound, with their convoy of three ships of war, which were captured by the Dunkirk squadron, under the command of the count de St. Paul, though he himself was killed in the engagement. It is, therefore, but just to observe, that upon the whole the advantages of this campaign were nearly balanced on both sides.

The ministry of Scotland was now entirely changed, and the marquis of Tweeddale was succeeded in the office of high-commissioner by the young duke of Argyle, who had obtained among the presbyterians the same influence as his father. His instructions were, that he should endeavour to procure an act, settling the succession as it was in England, or to set on foot a treaty for the union

of the two kingdoms. A great contention arose at first on the point whether the question which was the first named should be taken the first into consideration or not. Many long speeches were delivered on both sides, and the discussion was frequently interrupted by several other questions. At last, after some warm debates, it was resolved by the majority, "That this parliament will not proceed to the nomination of a successor, till they have had a previous treaty with England respecting the commerce and other concerns with that nation; and that this parliament will proceed to make such limitations and conditions of government for the rectification of the constitution, as may secure the liberty, religion and independency of Scotland, before they proceed to the nomination of a successor." After many other difficulties and very hot debates, it was also agreed, that to settle the conditions of the intended treaty of union, the queen should name and appoint not only the commissioners for England, but likewise those for Scotland.

The new parliament of England met on the 25th of October, and it soon appeared that the whigs had obtained the majority in the elections, and were well disposed to support her majesty in all her designs. In her speech to both houses, she encouraged them to continue the war till the monarchy of Spain was restored to the house of Austria. She also acquainted them with the transactions that had taken place in Scotland, respecting the union of the two kingdoms, and desired them to vote such supplies as were requisite for carrying on the next year's service.

All parties unanimously concurred in the addresses of both houses presented to the queen, as well as in granting all the demands of her majesty. The house of commons readily voted a supply of

5,075,757*l.* and went on to provide proper funds for it. The most important debates began in the house of lords, the queen being present at them all. Lord Haversham opening the motions of the tory side, arraigned the duke of Marlborough's conduct both on the Moselle and the Brabant, and coming at length to the point which was said to be the debate of the day, he moved for an address to desire her majesty to invite the presumptive heir to the crown to come and reside in the kingdom; as there was no method so effectual to secure the succession, as that of the successor being upon the spot, ready to assume and maintain his or her right against any pretender; and they observed that in former times, when the throne of England was vacant, the first comer had always succeeded in his pretensions. The proposal earnestly supported by the tories, was vehemently opposed by the whigs, who knew it was disagreeable to the queen. The question being put, was carried in the negative by a great majority. The tories intended by this motion to bring their antagonists into disgrace, either with the queen, by supporting it, or with the people by their opposition, which might be easily construed into an aversion to the protestant succession. But the nation perceived the snare, and the only effect the motion produced, was the queen's resentment against the whole party. In the mean time, in order that provision might be made for maintaining the public quiet in the interval between the queen's decease and the arrival of her successor, and for the better securing of the succession to the crown of England, a bill was passed appointing "a regency, composed of the seven persons who, at the queen's death, should possess the offices of archbishop of Canterbury, lord chancellor, or lord keeper, lord treasurer, lord president, lord privy seal, lord high admiral, and the lord chief justice of the queen's"

“ bench. These regents were required to proclaim
“ the next successor, and to give orders for the like
“ proclamation over England and Ireland. The
“ next successor might seal a triplicate of the per-
“ sons named by him, to be deposited, one with the
“ archbishop of Canterbury, another with the lord
“ keeper, and a third with his own minister-resid-
“ ing at this court ; upon the producing whereof,
“ the persons nominated were to join with the re-
“ gents, and to act in equality with them. The
“ last parliament, even though dissolved, was to be
“ immediately brought together, and empowered to
“ continue sitting for six months ; and thus things
“ were to be kept in order, till the successor should
“ either come in person, or send his orders.”

These measures being taken, the dangers to which the Tories affirmed the church was exposed, were inquired into, and the debate being finished, the house resolved that the church of England, under the happy reign of her majesty, was by God's blessing in a most safe and flourishing condition ; and that whoever should suggest or insinuate any thing to the contrary, was an enemy to the queen, the church, and the kingdom.

A committee of the lower house present the thanks of the commons to the duke of Marlborough, for his great services in the last campaign, and for his prudent negotiations. He was now in such credit with the people, that when he proposed a loan of 500,000*l.* to the emperor, upon a branch of his revenue in Silezia, the money was advanced immediately by the merchants of London.

Ann. 1706.

The kingdom was in the most prosperous situation at this period. The armies, and the subsidies to the allies, were punctually paid. The credit of

the nation was never raised so high, nor so sacredly maintained. The treasury was as regular in all payments as any private banker could be, though a great quantity of coin was exported to maintain the war in Spain and Portugal, the way by bills of exchange not being yet opened; and the trade with Spain and the West-Indies, which formerly brought great returns of money, being now stopped. But owing to the general confidence in the administration, and the zeal of the people for the present war, the deficiency of coin was fully supplied by the currency of exchequer bills and bank notes, notwithstanding all the attempts of the disaffected party to blast, or at least to disparage this paper credit. The parliament was prorogued on the 19th of March.

The new convocation, instead of imitating the union and harmony of the parliament, revived their former divisions, and the two houses seemed to act with more determined rancour against each other. In order to put an end to this dissension, the queen, in a letter to the archbishop, signified her resolution to maintain her supremacy, and the due subordination of presbyters to bishops. She required him to impart this declaration to both houses, and to prorogue the convocation to such time as should appear most convenient. When the lower house saw they were to be prorogued, they ran indecently to the door, and with some difficulty were kept in the room till the prorogation was intimated to them. They went afterwards to their own house, where, though prorogued, they sat still in form, but they did not venture on passing any vote.

The attention of Great Britain was now engrossed by a transaction of the utmost importance, namely, the treaty for an union of England and Scotland. The parliament of the latter kingdom had addressed the queen against any progress in the treaty, till the

English act, which conditionally declared the Scotch aliens, should be repealed ; and so it had been in the last session, as well as the bill enacting restrictions upon the trade and manufacture of Scotland, which the more paved the way for an immediate treaty, that this last repeal, though very popular and advantageous to the Scots, was not even mentioned in their address to the queen. The commissioners on both sides met on the 16th day of April, in the council-chamber of the Cock-pit, near Whitehall. Their conferences lasted about three months, during which they were twice visited by the queen, who exhorted them to accelerate a business of so much consequence for both kingdoms. At length all the articles being agreed on, were mutually signed on the 22d of July, and next day presented to her majesty. The principal articles of this famous treaty were, “ That the two kingdoms should be for ever
“ united into one, by the name of Great Britain ;
“ that the succession should be vested in the princess Sophia, electress of Hanover, and the heirs
“ of her body, being protestants, according to an
“ act of parliament of the 12th year of the reign of
“ William III. that the whole people of Great Britain should be represented by one parliament, in
“ which sixteen peers and forty-five commoners,
“ chosen for Scotland, should sit and vote ; that all
“ the subjects of the united kingdoms should enjoy
“ a full freedom and intercourse of trade and navigation, and a reciprocal communication of all
“ other rights, privileges, and advantages belonging to the subjects of either kingdom ; that when
“ ever the sum of 1,997,763*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* should be
“ enacted to be raised in that part of the united
“ kingdom now called England, on lands and other
“ things usually charged there in acts of parliament,
“ that part of the united kingdom, now called Scotland, should be charged by the same act with

“ the further sum of 48,000*l.* free of all charges,
 “ as the quota of Scotland to such tax, and so
 “ proportionably for any greater or lesser sum
 “ raised in England by any tax; that the laws con-
 “ cerning public right, policy, and civil govern-
 “ ment should be the same throughout the whole
 “ united kingdom; that all peers of Scotland and
 “ their successors from and after the union, should
 “ be peers of Great Britain, and have rank and pre-
 “ cedency next and immediately after the English
 “ peers of the like orders and degrees at the time
 “ of the union, and before those who might be
 “ created afterwards; that they should fully enjoy
 “ all privileges enjoyed by the peers of England, ex-
 “ cept that of sitting in the house of Lords, and
 “ the privileges depending thereon, and particularly
 “ the right of sitting in the trial of peers.”

In the parliament of Scotland, the debates upon the different articles of the treaty were carried on with great heat and vivacity; several protests were entered into, and great numbers in both houses adhered to them. While this opposition raged within doors, the resentment of the people rose to transports of fury and revenge. Notwithstanding the guards placed all round the house, the high commissioner was constantly saluted with curses and imprecations as he passed along; his guards were pelted, his attendants wounded with stones, so that he was obliged to pass through the streets in full gallop. However, partly by promises or corruption towards the members of both houses, partly by money given to the leaders of the mob, means were found to diminish, if not entirely to silence, the clamour of the multitude, and to obtain a considerable majority in parliament; all the articles of the union were approved and ratified with some little variation.

While this famous treaty lay on the most equitable and liberal basis, the foundation of an everlast-

ing concord and amity between two nations, so long rivals and so often at war with one another; the confederate armies were in a fair way to render the present year equally memorable by military transactions of great importance and renown. The particulars of such a series of victories would fill so many pages, and even volumes, as to be a sufficient apology for my confining myself to pointing out their dates and the places where they were obtained.

In Spain, Alcantara surrenders to lord Galway, April 16th. King Philip, having under him mareschal de Tessé, undertook the siege of Barcelona, while the count de Toulouse blocked it up with a powerful squadron; he is obliged to raise the siege, May 12th. Catalonia is open to the archduke. Ciudad Rodrigo is taken by the Portuguese. Carthagea surrenders to the English, June 13th. Lord Galway takes Salamanca, June 7th, and hastens to Madrid, where he proclaims the archduke. The want of provisions, and the approach of the duke of Berwick at the head of his army, oblige him to retreat towards the kingdom of Valencia. The English take Alicant by assault, August 8th, and the castle by capitulation. Then sailing out of the straits, one squadron is detached to the West Indies, another to lie at Lisbon, and the rest is sent home to England. The island of Ivica surrenders to the archduke, September 20th, and Majorca five days after.

In Flanders, the celebrated battle of Ramilli took place on the 23d of May, being Whitsunday. The French army was commanded by the elector of Bavaria and the mareschal de Villeroi. The confederate forces were under the command of the duke of Marlborough, the duke of Wirtemberg, and the Dutch general Velt mareschal d'Auverkerque. The left wing of the French being covered by the small river Gette and its morasses, could neither attack nor be attacked; which being perceived by the duke of Marlborough, he consider-

ably reinforced his left wing, with a great part of his right, which was become useless. Mareschal de Villeroi, unaccountably neglecting to execute a corresponding manœuvre, had to resist, with his right wing only, nearly the whole of the confederate army, which, though somewhat inferior in number, obtained the most complete victory, took about 120 colours or standards, the baggage and artillery, 600 officers, 6000 private soldiers, and left about 4000 of the enemy killed on the spot, and as many wounded. The loss of that battle was the more irrecoverable, that the whole army being convinced that it was owing to the fault of their general, had lost all confidence in him. The conquest of all Brabant followed immediately. Mareschal de Villeroi was recalled, and returned to Versailles, where he expected to meet with nothing but reproaches. Louis, however, received him without the least mark of displeasure, saying, "Mr. Mareschal, you and I are too old to be fortunate." He was succeeded in Flanders by the duke de Vendome, who was recalled from Italy, where he had succeeded in all his enterprizes, from the opening of the present campaign, particularly in the battle at Calcinato, where he completely defeated, and even nearly destroyed, the confederate army commanded by the Danish general, count Reveutlau, so that prince Eugene, who arrived next day, thought it prudent not to await the approach of the duke, who rapidly pursued his victory; he accordingly retreated into the Trentin, to wait for new reinforcements from Germany. The measures of the duke of Vendome were so skilfully combined, that before his departing from Versailles to go to Italy, he had announced this victory to the king. The duke of Orleans was appointed to succeed him in the command of the French forces in Italy.

Mareschal de la Feuillade had invested Turin so early as the 13th of May, and opened the trenches

in the beginning of June. Prince Eugene, after a long and difficult march, in which he met with none of the obstacles he had expected, attacked and forced the French lines; the duke of Orleans was wounded in the action, and mareschal de Marsin was killed. Prince Eugene intended only to supply Turin with provisions and ammunition; but his success considerably exceeded his expectations, when he saw the enemy retreating as far as Pignerol, instead of stopping under Casal, which would have been sufficient for the defence of the Milaneze. The consequence was, that in less than four hours, the Modeneze, the Mantuan, the Milaneze, the Piemont, and even the kingdom of Naples, were lost.

Mareschal de Villars still supported in Germany the honour of the French arms. By taking the entrenchments of Drusenheim abandoned by the prince of Baden, he had compelled the enemy to raise the blockade of Fort Louis. With a detachment of his army, the marquis de Vieuxpont took Drusenheim, May the 2d, and with another, M. de Peri took Haguenau, May the 11th, and put the whole Palatinate under contribution.

Louis, broken with the great and numerous misfortunes of the campaign, had privately made, without success, some pacific applications to the states-general; he now submitted himself publicly to signify his earnest desire for peace; and for that purpose he desired the elector of Bavaria to write letters to the duke of Marlborough and the field-deputies of the states to propose the opening of a general congress. As a proof of his sincerity, he mentioned at once the terms. He offered the dominions of Spain in Italy, to the archduke Charles, a barrier in the Netherlands to the states, and a compensation to the duke of Savoy for the waste made by the war in his territories. In return, he expected that the territories of Bavaria should be restored to their native prince, and that his grand-

son, Philip the fifth, should sit on the throne of Spain and the Indies. The allies could never find a more favourable opportunity to bridle effectually the power of France, and secure the liberties of the empire. Had their vast design been to establish an equal balance between the houses of Austria and Bourbon, they never could better accomplish it than by dividing the Spanish monarchy between these two potentates. The accession of Spain, with all its appendages, to either of these sovereigns, would have effectually destroyed the equilibrium, the re-establishing of which had been proclaimed by the allies as the principal motives of the war.

The terms, however, though more advantageous than those afterwards obtained, were not likely to be approved by those who led the counsels of the allies. The duke of Marlborough was no less fond of the emoluments of war than of its most glorious trophies. Prince Eugene, besides being actuated by similar motives, evinced an irreconcilable aversion to France in all his views; and the pensionary Heinsius, who had the address to lead the counsels of the states, in adhering to the opinion of the two generals, yielded to his own interest. In England, the warlike temper of the people, enlivened by military success, and being daily gratified by the accounts of new victories, they were by no means inclined to give up, even for the most advantageous peace, an enjoyment with which they were so much delighted. The emperor, who had the good fortune to have his cause supported by the benevolence and generosity of strangers, was indifferent how long a contest, in which he might gain much, and could lose nothing, should continue. From these various circumstances, Europe was destined to continue for several years more, a scene of bloodshed, confusion, and distress. The whigs, who were now possessed of the whole power of government in England, gave a very remarkable reason for reject-

ing the proposed peace. They said, the terms offered by France were too good to be the foundation of a lasting tranquillity, and therefore ought not to be admitted. This opinion prevailed in the queen's council; but as such a motive was little susceptible of being framed into an official answer, the ministers insisted particularly, "that they could never believe that it was honourable to treat of a peace, while one who pretended to be king of England remained in France. (*Letter of Lord Halifax to the elector of Hanover, September 20th, 1706. Hanover Papers, Macpherson, vol. ii. p. 64.*)

The parliament met December 3d; the commons proceeded with such unanimity and alacrity to grant the supplies, that in less than three weeks they voted for the service of the ensuing year 5,540,167*l*. The duke of Marlborough received the thanks of both houses for his eminent services, and the lords addressed the queen to settle his honours on his posterity. Her majesty readily complied with the demand; an act was passed accordingly to limit the duke's title and honours to his eldest daughter, and her male heirs, and then to all his other daughters successively, according to their priority of birth, and that Woodstock-manor and Blenheim-house should always go with the titles. A few days after, upon an address of the commons, the queen agreed that the 5000*l*. pension out of the post-office, should be settled on him and his posterity in the same manner as the town of Woodstock and the house of Blenheim.

Ann. 1707.

In examining the accounts, it was found that the extraordinary supplies for the support of the archduke Charles, amounted to 800,000*l*. more than the sums provided by parliament. Some members argued that very ill consequences might ensue, if a ministry could thus run the nation in debt, and ex-

pect the parliament should pay the money. The ministers answered, that as this expence was incurred to improve advantages, at a time when the occasion could not be communicated to parliament, the administration was rather to be applauded for their zeal, than blamed for their liberality. The question being put, the majority voted that the sum had been expended for the interest of king Charles against the common enemy, and for the safety and honour of the nation.

The act of the Scottish parliament, confirming the treaty of union, was laid before the English commons, who passed it without opposition. It made its way through the house of lords with nearly the same dispatch, and immediately received the royal assent.

The lower house of convocation still continued to wrangle with their superiors, and even intended to make application to the commons against the treaty of union. The queen being apprized of it, desired the archbishop to prorogue them for three weeks, before the expiration of which, the act of union had passed in parliament. The lower house, still arguing and particularly insisting on the pretended illegality of a prorogation during the session of parliament, the queen, displeased at their refractoriness, wrote a letter to the archbishop, intimating that she looked upon the lower house as guilty of an invasion of her royal supremacy; and that if any thing of the same nature should be attempted for the future, she would use such means for punishing offenders as the law warranted.

The parliament was prorogued April 24th, and the queen in her speech acquainted them that she intended that the present members of the parliament of *England* should be members of the respective houses of the parliament of *Great Britain* on the part of *England*. The house of commons at the time of the

union was composed of 513 members, and now, including the 45 Scottish members, amounted to 558.

The year began with one instance of success on the part of France; Majorca was re-taken by count de Villars, January 5th. But this gleam of good fortune disappeared under fresh disasters in Italy. The French and Spanish troops were forced to evacuate Lombardy by a capitulation, signed on the 13th of March. Modena and Milan surrendered successively to the allies. The whole kingdom of Naples was reduced, either by the treachery of the inhabitants, or the force of the enemy; and the few places in the dominions of Savoy, and in the Milanese, that were still held by French or Spanish garrisons, fell one by one before the end of the campaign.

The campaign in Spain had a fatal beginning for the allies, and the important victory obtained by the duke of Berwick, at Almanza, changed the whole face of affairs in that country. The English, Dutch, and Portugueze, being possessed, in the name of Charles III. of the kingdoms of Catalonia, Arragon, and Valencia, resolved under their generals, the earl of Galloway and the marquis de Lasminas, to act offensively, seek out the enemy, and endeavour to bring them to a battle. They advanced for that purpose to Almanza, as intelligence was received that the duke of Berwick had taken his position near that place. On the 13th of April, at three in the morning, they began to march, and about twelve they saw the town of Almanza, and the enemy drawn up in order of battle, ready to receive them. The duke of Berwick did not hesitate a moment to give them battle. The action extended from wing to wing, and was soon decided in favour of the French. There never was a more complete victory; 6000 of the allies either lay dead on the field of battle, or were slain in the pursuit. Five general

officers, seven brigadiers, twenty-five colonels, above 800 other officers, and 9000 soldiers, were either taken prisoners, or being surrounded in the mountains, were forced to surrender. All the cannons, standards, colours, and equipage of the vanquished, fell into the hands of the enemy. Lasminas made his escape with some cavalry, and lord Galloway fled towards Catalonia with a party of horse, and did not stop till he arrived at Tortosa. The duke of Orleans, who arrived immediately after the battle, took the command of the army, and entered into a private negotiation with the earl of Galloway, which was probably of a pacific nature, as during some months the two armies lay inactive on the opposite banks of the Cinca. The duke, however, concluded the campaign with the siege of Lerida, which was surrendered by capitulation, November 2d, and the troops on both sides went into winter quarters.

The most remarkable event of the year, after the victory of Almanza, was the siege of Toulon, by the duke of Savoy and prince Eugene, and the miscarriage of the allies before that important place, though it was attacked by an army of 30,000 men, powerfully supported by admiral Shovel, who with a strong squadron of men of war, attended the motions of the allies, supplied the army with necessaries, and blocked up the town by sea. The gallant resistance of a numerous garrison, and the intelligence received of the march of new troops on every side to relieve the place, induced the generals to desist from their attempt, and during a nightly bombardment, the fleet and army retired in the night, November 21st.

The affairs in Germany were attended with no better success to the confederates. The margrave of Bareith, who succeeded to the command of the imperialists upon the death of the prince of Baden,

led an army inconsiderable in point of numbers, and ill-provided with necessaries for the field. The French army under mareschal de Villars, having passed the Rhine at Strasbourg, forced the lines of Stollhoffen, laid the duchy of Wirtemberg under contribution, entered Suabia, and penetrated to the Danube. But when the mareschal was meditating a plan, which might change the whole face of the war, he was forced to weaken his army by great detachments into Provence. Towards the end of the campaign, the elector of Hanover took the command of the army, and the surprize of Offembourg forced the mareschal to re-pass the Rhine.

In Flanders nothing of importance occurred during the campaign. The French, commanded by the duke of Vendome, prudently avoided an action, and managed their motions so well, that they furnished the enemy with no opportunity of attacking them with advantage.

The most remarkable operation at sea was the fruitless siege of Toulon. The chevalier de Forbin had the good fortune of taking two English men of war, with twenty merchant-men. In the month of July he took, towards the north, forty English and Dutch ships. Some advantages were obtained by the English on the coast of North America, but they sustained a very great loss in the shipwreck of sir Cloudsley Shovel on some dangerous rocks to the westward of the islands of Scilly. His ship struck and foundered at once, not one of the crew being saved. The same melancholy fate attended three other ships of his squadron; the captain and twenty-four sailors of one of them only were saved. In the month of October, another squadron fitted out at Brest, under the command of the celebrated Duguai-Trouin, having joined the squadron commanded by Mr. de Forbin, making in all fourteen sail, one of 70 guns, others of 60, some of 50, and

none under 40, attacked the convoy of the Portugal fleet, consisting of the Cumberland of 80 guns, the Devonshire of 80, the Royal Oak of 76, the Chester and the Ruby of 50 guns each. The action was gallantly maintained for many hours by the English, though the enemy were almost three to one. At length the Cumberland blew up, the Royal Oak escaped much shattered, and the three others were taken; but they had fought so long, that most of the merchant ships had time to get away.

These misfortunes occurring nearly at the time when the first parliament of Great Britain was to meet, could not but throw a melancholy gloom on the beginning of the session, which the queen endeavoured to dispel, by expatiating in her speech *on the obvious advantages to be expected from the next campaign*; and touching very lightly on the miscarriages of the last. The commons voted unanimously their address of thanks, assuring her majesty that no disappointment should discourage them from making their utmost efforts to enable her to bring to an honourable conclusion the just and necessary war in which she was engaged; and a few days after, they cheerfully granted the supplies for the service of the ensuing year, amounting to 5,933,657*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

In the house of lords, when the queen's speech came first under consideration, the vote on the address of thanks was stopped by a vehement speech of lord Wharton, wherein he took notice of the great decay of trade, and scarcity of money, so that the farmers were not able to pay their rents, and insisted on taking into consideration the state of the nation. Lord Sommers, who supported the motion, enlarged on the mismanagement of the navy, and on the great losses of the merchants at sea, for want of convoys and cruizers, as it was stated in a petition given in by the two sheriffs of London, and

subscribed by about 200 of the most eminent merchants in the city, begging a speedy remedy. Several other peers having spoken to the same effect, it was ordered that the state of the nation should be taken into consideration, November 19th. The leaders of the tory party hoped, in the course of the inquiry, to fix the blame of all mismanagement upon the whig ministers, and they moved for an address to that purpose, but the motion was overruled. The commons made some progress in an inquiry respecting the same complaints, and brought in a bill for the better securing the trade of the kingdom.

The queen, on passing this bill and some others respecting Scotland, recommended an augmentation in the aids granted to the king of Spain (the archduke Charles) and the duke of Savoy. This intimation gave rise in the upper house to a long debate respecting the affairs of Spain. Several lords maintained that the allies should stand on the defensive in Flanders, as attacking France in the Netherlands, was like taking a bull by the horns, as was observed by the old duke of Schomberg. They proposed accordingly to detach from thence fifteen or twenty thousand men, and send them into Catalonia, to carry on the war until king Charles should be fully established upon the throne of Spain. This plan was warmly opposed by the duke of Marlborough, who urged that the great towns he had conquered in Brabant, could not be preserved without a considerable number of men; and that if the French should obtain any advantage in Flanders, the Dutch, who bore with great impatience the burthen of the war, would not fail crying aloud for peace. He moreover assured the house, that measures had been already concerted with the emperor, to form an army of 40,000 men under the duke of Savoy, and send powerful reinforcements to king

Charles. This declaration put an end to the debate which issued in an affectionate address to her majesty. In the mean time the lords resolved that no peace could be safe and honourable for the queen and her allies, if Spain and the Spanish West-Indies were suffered to continue in the power of the house of Bourbon.

Though the union of England and Scotland had been carried by a great majority in the respective parliaments of these two kingdoms, the discontents of the Scots were far from being allayed by this measure, and they did no more agree on its legality than on its justice. They even maintained, that no representative of a nation had a right to dissolve the constitution from which they derived their own political existence. The populace, particularly, were almost as loud as ever in their complaints, and wanted nothing but leaders to appeal from their parliament to the decision of the sword. But France was not in a situation to listen to their earnest solicitations in sending the pretender to Scotland with a sufficient force to protect his person. Colonel Hooke was, however, dispatched to the northern counties of the latter kingdom, and presented to the leaders of the jacobites, letters from the king of France and from the pretender. The nobility and gentry to the north of the Forth, and many to the south of that river, expressed to him their readiness to take up arms for their prince. Their enthusiasm in his favour, and aversion to the union, were so great, that though Hooke's apparent object was to engage them in every thing, and the French king in nothing, they signed a general memorial, referring implicitly the expected aid from France to the generosity of Lewis XIV. (*Stuart Papers*, 1707. *Macpherson*, vol. ii. page 74 and following.)

They affirmed in this memorial that the pretender, upon his arrival, should be received as king

without opposition, and that the established government should immediately vanish without the least resistance. Out of the great number of men that were to be led by his adherents to his standard, they proposed to select 25,000 foot and 5000 horse, promising to clothe, to arm, and to provide them with provisions, till they should march into England. But upon that event, they insinuated that a monthly subsidy ought to be paid by France, should the war be prolonged for any time, by the resistance of the English nation *to their lawful king*.

Hooke being returned to France in the month of July, laid the substance of his negociation before the court of Versailles, and the earl of Middleton, who managed the affairs of the pretender, attempted to improve, by the most plausible arguments, the effect which he supposed the affairs and solicitations of the Scots would produce. But Toulon was at that very period besieged by the duke of Savoy and prince Eugene, and the French ministry were too much disconcerted with an invasion of their own country, to think of carrying the war into that of the enemy. It was, however, observed at this juncture, that a rebellion seemed preparing and ripening in Scotland by the readiness of the lord-treasurer, Godolphin, to adopt every measure calculated to exasperate the Scots against what they called the illegality of the union. Considering all government in a manner dissolved, they were at no pains to conceal their sentiments; yet such was the supineness of the minister, that he seemed to court an insurrection and even an invasion. This conjecture would have amounted to a certainty, had it been known that at that time, Godolphin, as well as the duke of Marlborough, continued to give assurances of fidelity and attachment to the court of St. Germain. The duke, in particular, seemed to insinuate to their agents, that one cause of rejecting

the proposals of peace offered by France, was their not including any stipulations in favour of the exiled family. (*Stuart Papers, April 1707. Macpherson's Original Papers, vol. ii. page 85.*)

The conduct of Marlborough with regard to the unfortunate family of Stuart, has extremely perplexed many historical writers. Some of them have considered it as utterly unaccountable, unless he is supposed to have been actuated by a constant perseverance in his principles of loyalty and fidelity towards his exiled sovereign, and even in that supposition, their arguments are far from being satisfactory; while, on the contrary, by putting the duke's pretended loyalty out of the question, as he himself had completely done, and applying to his conduct the surest criterion of all men's actions, viz. their interest and their passions, its apparent mysteries unriddle themselves without difficulty. Of what an uncommon sort, indeed, must have been the loyalty of Marlborough, who, being indebted for his whole fortune and advancement to the favour and kindness of James II. did not hesitate to desert the cause of his royal benefactor, and support the usurper of his throne, as soon as he perceived more chances of success on the side of William III. than in favour of his legitimate king. It must be confessed, that some months after, he expressed to king James a deep repentance of his unfaithfulness; that he entertained since a more or less regular correspondence with the court of St. Germain, and even rendered occasionally some services to their majesties; but if we attend to the dates, we shall find that he never did so; but whenever his favour at the new court was in a decline, or when he discovered some chances for a restoration, and the degree of their probability was in fact the exact thermometer of what was called his loyalty.

In the present circumstances, though France, the

only protecting power of the family of Stuart, was disabled by the victories of Marlborough from giving any assistance to the pretender, the discontents about the union were so violent in Scotland, and the attachment to the house of Stuart in preference to that of Hanover, was so generally prevailing among the nation, as to afford to the pretender the easiest means of raising, in that country, an army sufficient to attempt an invasion; the more likely to succeed, that the greatest part of the English troops were now employed abroad. There still existed, therefore, a chance of restoration, which Godolphin, inseparably connected with the duke, was suspected of improving. On another hand, notwithstanding the apparent solidity of Marlborough's power, owing to the blind submission of the queen to the influence of his duchess from the earliest part of her majesty's life, his credit was now secretly undermined in a manner that threatened its fall. A new female favourite, Mrs. Masham, had, in a great measure, supplanted the duchess in the affections of the queen, if not thoroughly in the despotic sway which she haughtily exercised over the mind of that timid and easy princess. Mr. Harley, who had been secretary of state for some years, had gained likewise a considerable degree of credit with her majesty, which he had strengthened by securing the confidence and assistance of the new favourite. Both easily succeeded in making her sensible, that in the hands of the duke and the duchess she could be nothing but a mere cypher, as there remained not a single branch of her authority to which the immense power of Marlborough did not extend. She therefore listened to the suggestions of Harley, who perceiving the manifest change in the mind of the queen, began to act no longer in dependence on the minister. Lord Godolphin represented against it to the queen, as being of the utmost prejudice to

her affairs; he even went so far as to say, that if Mr. Harley continued to act the part he did, and yet to have so much credit with her, lord Marlborough and himself must of necessity quit her service.

The queen, extremely alarmed at this menace, wrote to the duchess of Marlborough, from whom she had received, on the same subject, some letters of complaint which she had left unanswered; and after a tender apology for her negligence, she added, "Can dear Mrs. Freeman (the duchess) think that I can be so stupid as not to be sensible of the great services that my lord Marlborough and my lord-treasurer have done me, nor of the great misfortune it would be if they should quit my service? No, sure you cannot believe me so void of sense and gratitude. I never did, nor ever will give them any just reason to forsake me; and they have too much honour, and too sincere a love for their country, to leave me without cause; and I beg you would not add to my other misfortunes, by pushing them on to such an unjust and unjustifiable action. But whatever be-comes of me, I shall always preserve a most sincere and tender passion for my dear Mrs. Freeman to my last moment." But these written assurances, being no longer accompanied with that trust and openness of heart with which for more than twenty years the queen had ever treated the duchess, the latter plainly saw that her majesty's affections were in great measure estranged from her, and that the new favourite was deeply rooted in her heart. The duke being aware that his own fall must be sooner or later the consequence of this new connexion, was naturally prompted, both by his interest and ambition, to prepare, at all events, another string for his bow. Thence the revival of his correspondence with the court of St. Germain, as

the pretender's restoration, far from being improbable, depended almost entirely on his consenting to abandon the catholic religion.

An act is passed for rendering the union of the two kingdoms more entire and complete, and importing, that from the first of May, 1708, there should be but one privy council in the kingdom of Great Britain.

Ann. 1708.

The duke of Marlborough, convinced that the queen was resolved not to part with Mr. Harley, and that he was brooding upon some scheme for a new administration, resolved to attack him while his own power and influence stood still unimpaired in the council. He and lord Godolphin wrote accordingly to the queen, that they could serve her no longer, if Harley was continued secretary of state; and on the Sunday following, being summoned to a cabinet council, and seeing that the secretary was already arrived, they told her majesty, that since she was resolved not to part with Mr. Harley, they must quit her service; and upon this both went away, to the wonder of the whole court. Immediately after, the queen went to the cabinet-council, and Mr. Harley opened some matters relating to foreign affairs. After he was heard, the duke of Somerset said that he did not conceive how they could deliberate on such matters, since the general and the lord-treasurer were not with them. He repeated this observation with some vehemence, while the other members looked on so cold and sullen, that the cabinet council was soon at an end; and the queen plainly saw that the rest of her ministers and the chief officers were resolved to withdraw from her service, if she did not recall the two who had left it. She was not, however, inclined

to yield, if Harley himself, apprehending the dangers of his situation, had not resolved to resign. The queen sent the next day for the duke of Marlborough, and after some expostulations, she told him that Mr. Harley should immediately leave his post, which he did within two days. But the queen seemed to carry a deep resentment of his and lord Godolphin's behaviour on this occasion, and they soon perceived that they had no longer her confidence. The duchess abstained for some weeks going to court; and both houses of parliament, apprehending the ill effects of this rupture, expressed a great concern at it. The breach was, however, made up, but only in appearance.

At this period, preparations for an invasion of Scotland were in great forwardness at Dunkirk, where a squadron was assembled under the command of the chevalier de Forbin, to embark a body of land forces with the pretender, who had assumed the name of the chevalier de St. George. Anne having received this information, transmitted it to the commons, who immediately passed a bill, enacting that the oath of abjuration should be tendered to all persons, and such as refused to take it, should be in the condition of convicted recusants. By another bill they suspended the *Habeas Corpus* act till October, with relation to persons apprehended by government on suspicion of treasonable practices. The pretender and his adherents were proclaimed traitors, and a bill was passed, discharging the clans of Scotland from all vassalage to those chiefs who should take up arms against her majesty. A large fleet being equipped with incredible activity, sailed from Deal towards Dunkirk. Sir George Byng, who commanded a part of it, arrived at the frith of Edinburgh, almost as soon as the enemy, whose signals not being answered by the inhabitants of that part of Scotland, took advantage of a land-breeze,

and bore away with all the sail they could carry. The English admiral gave chase, and the Salisbury, one of their ships, was boarded and taken.

The parliament was prorogued April 1st, and afterwards dissolved by proclamation.

Before the opening of the campaign, one colonel Queinterne, a partisan in the imperial army, laid a scheme for carrying off the Dauphin from the court of Versailles. He selected thirty resolute, intrepid men for this attempt, and procured passes for them. Their place of rendezvous was in the neighbourhood of Paris. On the 24th of March, in the evening, he and his accomplices stopped a coach and six, with the king's liveries, and arrested the person who was in it, on the supposition of his being a prince of the blood. It was, however, Mr. De Beringhen, the king's first equerry. They mounted him on a spare horse, and set out for the Low Countries; but being little acquainted with the roads, they did not reach Chantilly till next morning, when they heard the *toxin*, or alarm-bell, and thence concluded that detachments were sent in pursuit of them. Nevertheless, they proceeded boldly, and would certainly have carried the point, had not Queinterne halted three hours for the refreshment of his prisoner, who complained of his being indisposed. He likewise provided a chaise, and ordered the back of it to be lowered for his convenience. These acts of humanity retarded him so much, that he was overtaken by a detachment of horse at Ham, within three hours ride of a place of safety. He thought proper to surrender, but Mr. De Beringhen took him under his protection, carried him back to Versailles, and lodged him in his own apartments. The king ordered him and his companions to be discharged on account of the courage and humanity they had displayed.

Lewis XIV. had made the greatest preparations;

with a view of improving in this campaign the advantages he had obtained during the last. He had assembled a powerful army in the Netherlands under the command of the duke of Burgundy, assisted by the duke de Vendome, and accompanied by the duke de Berry and the chevalier de St. George. The elector of Bavaria was destined to the command of the troops upon the Rhine, where he was seconded by the duke of Berwick, while mareschal de Villeroy was sent to command the forces in Dauphiné.

In the mean time the duke of Marlborough arrived on the 30th of March at the Hague, where he was met by prince Eugene. These two generals, having settled with the states the operations of the summer, repaired to Hanover, to reconcile the elector to the plan they had settled, without his communication, with regard to the army his highness commanded, and prevailed upon him to be satisfied with acting upon the defensive on the Rhine, and spare part of his forces, that the confederates might be enabled to make vigorous efforts in the Netherlands. The duke immediately returned to Flanders, where he assembled the army towards the latter end of May, in the neighbourhood of Ghent. The French took the field on the same side. Both armies remained in their respective camps the whole month of June. On the 5th of July, a detachment of the French troops, commanded by the duke of Burgundy, surprised the city of Ghent, while another of the same army took Bruges and the fortress of Plassendhal. The attack of Oudenarde was to follow; but the duke of Marlborough, who had been joined by prince Eugene, had already passed the Scheldt, and therefore an engagement became unavoidable. It took place on the 11th of July, but was by no means decisive, though the advantage was entirely on the side of the confederate

army. No baggage nor cannon were lost ; it was the repulse of a party rather than a general rout. The allies expected the renewal of battle upon better terms the next morning. It was proposed likewise, by the duke de Vendome to the French princes, but the contrary opinion prevailed in the council, and the French retreated towards Ghent in the night, and thence under Tournay and Ypres.

The allies now undertook the siege of Lisle, the strongest town of Flanders, fortified with all the art of Vauban. It was invested on one side by prince Eugene, August 13th, and on the other by the prince of Orange-Nassau, stadtholder of Friesland, while the duke of Marlborough took his position at Helchin to cover the siege. The trenches were opened, August 22nd. The duke de Vendome vainly attempted to relieve the place, and cut off the convoys of the besieging army. The city, in the mean time, was very gallantly defended by mareschal de Boufflers ; it was, however, forced to surrender, October 23rd. Boufflers retired with the remains of the garrison into the citadel, which he held till the 8th of December.

The allies had lost in that siege between eighteen and twenty thousand men, which had rendered their army much inferior to the French, who were now engaged in the siege of Brussels. The duke of Marlborough, little attending to the numbers of the enemy, crossed the Scheldt and marched to them. The elector of Bavaria, who had sat down before Brussels the day before the allies had crossed the river, decamped with the utmost precipitation on their approach, leaving behind him all his cannon, ammunition, and wounded. The retaking of Bruges, Plassendhal, and Ghent, followed immediately the crossing of the Scheldt ; and the generals of the allies having settled the plan of winter-quarters, repaired to Holland.

On the side of Dauphiné, mareschal de Villars took the two towns of Sezane, in sight of the duke of Savoy, but the duke on his part made himself master of the important fortresses of Exilles, La Perouse, and Fenestrelles.

In Spain, the duke of Orleans, July 13th, took Tortosa, which count Starhemberg attempted in vain to retake; the chevalier d'Asfeld took Denia in the kingdom of Valencia, November 12th, and Alicant, December 3rd. But these losses were compensated by the conquest of Sardinia, which acknowledged king Charles, and of Minorca, whose inhabitants gladly submitted to the English government.

The prince of Denmark having languished for some months, died October 28th. He had no talents for business, and was equally destitute of ambition for power or influence. He was upon the whole a very fit husband for a queen of England, a weak, indolent man, incapable of being troublesome, and of interfering in measures which he could not guide. The queen, who had exhibited every mark of conjugal affection during his illness, seemed disconsolate at his death.

The success of the campaign confirmed the influence which Marlborough and Godolphin had acquired by the expulsion of Harley, in whom, however, the queen privately reposed her chief confidence, though he had no visible concern in the administration; and Marlborough's interest with her majesty continued visibly to decline through the intrigues of Mrs. Masham. The new parliament, in which the whig interest still predominated, was opened by commission on the 16th of November, as decency would not permit the queen to appear in the house so soon after the death of her husband.

The supplies were granted unanimously, and amounted to above seven millions. The bank of

England agreed on this occasion to circulate 2,500,000*l.* in exchequer bills for the government, on condition that the term of their continuance should be prolonged for twenty-one years, from August, 1711, and that their stock of 2,201,171*l.* should be doubled by a new subscription.

Great debates arose in both houses respecting the incapacity of the eldest sons of the Scottish peers, to be elected members of the house of commons in the parliament of Great Britain. The substance of the arguments against them was that by an act of the Scottish parliament, confirmed by the act of union of the two kingdoms respecting the manner of electing sixteen peers, and forty-five commoners, to represent Scotland in the parliament of Great Britain, it was declared, that "none shall be capable to elect or be elected to represent a shire or borough of Scotland in the parliament of Great Britain, except such as are now capable to elect or be elected as commissioners for shires or boroughs to the parliament of Scotland;" and as the eldest sons of the peers were excluded from it, their exclusion was confirmed, and the commons ordered their speaker to issue out his warrants for electing new members instead of the eldest sons of three Scottish peers who had been elected.

The bill for naturalizing all protestant foreigners was also the subject of great debates; it passed, however, both houses and received the royal assent. An extraordinary address of the commons, which, however, received the concurrence of the lords, was presented to the queen, that she would moderate her grief and have such indulgence to the hearty desires of her subjects as to entertain thoughts of a second marriage. The queen considering her constitution, and even her age of forty-five years, could hardly look upon the address in any serious light, and answered very properly, that the provision she

had made for the protestant succession would always be a proof of her wishes for the happiness of the kingdom ; but that the subject of their address was of such a nature, that she was persuaded they did not expect a particular answer.

Ann. 1709.

The session was concluded the 21st of April.

An insult offered in the course of the last year to count de Matukof, the Muscovite ambassador, who had been arrested in the streets by some tradesmen for a debt of about 300*l*. had been the object of high resentment and warm complaints, not only from the count himself, but from the whole diplomatic body, who considered themselves as affronted in his person, and vehemently insisted on a solemn reparation, and on the most rigorous punishment to be immediately inflicted on the offenders. These expeditious and arbitrary proceedings not being consistent with the English constitution, the queen, on the count's application, could not but express her indignation at the offence, and gave orders for the immediate prosecution of all persons concerned in it for their being punished with all the rigour of the law. Seventeen out of them were arrested accordingly, and prosecuted by the attorney-general ; but as no sentence could be passed against them before the expiration of the legal delays, count Matukof wrote three several letters to the secretary of state for his passport ; he refused the ordinary presents made to the ministers of his character, and offered him by the queen, and he retired in disgust to Holland, from whence he transmitted a memorial with a letter from the czar to the queen, wherein he repeated the same demands made by his ambassador. This unlucky affair gave no small uneasiness to the queen, who, by way of

satisfaction to the czar, condescended at last to make him solemn excuses by her ambassador for the insufficiency of the English laws in such cases, to repair the honour of count de Matukof by a letter, and by a reimbursement of all the costs and damages he had been at on account of the affront, besides the present and the yacht offered him by the queen.

While measures were preparing on all sides for a vigorous prosecution of the war, the hardships of the most severe winter that was ever witnessed, concurring with a great scarcity of provisions and the consequent deficiency in the revenue, induced Lewis XIV. to send to Holland president Rouillé, and soon after M. de Torcy, the secretary of state for foreign affairs, to offer terms of peace, at once suitable to the melancholy condition of his own affairs, and to the prosperous situation of the allies. The conferences were held at the Hague with prince Eugene, the duke of Marlborough, and viscount Townshend, as ambassador-extraordinary and joint plenipotentiary. Louis proposed to consent to the demolition of Dunkirk, to abandon the pretender, and dismiss him from his dominions, to acknowledge the queen's title and the protestant succession, to treat with the emperor on the footing of the treaty concluded at Riswick, and even demolish the fortification of Strasburg; to renounce all pretensions to the Spanish monarchy, and cede the places in the Netherlands, which the states-general demanded for their barriers.

Though these proposals completely answered the proclaimed motives of the war, as well as the general and individual interests of the allies, Louis, in offering them, did not expect that they would be agreed on by such plenipotentiaries as those who composed the congress, and whose private interest was obviously to continue the war. But by thus

making conspicuous to all Europe the selfishness of their views, and their unaccountable obstinacy in rejecting the most advantageous conditions they could reasonably demand, he was sure of rendering the war generally unpopular ; and that his own subjects, indignant at the humiliating and almost incredible sacrifices to which Louis *the great* had vainly acquiesced for the restoration of peace, would vie with one another in their efforts to enable him not to submit to any terms inconsistent with the glory of his reign and the honour of the nation.

President Rouillé and the marquis de Torcy found that the states were wholly under the influence of prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough, both haughty and overbearing ; and besides the terms proposed, insisting as preliminaries upon France's restoring to the emperor, upper and lower Alsace, as well as Strasburg in its present condition, and upon the cession of the town and castellany of Lisle, the demolition of New Brisac, Fort Louis, and Hunningen. Louis rejected with disdain these preliminaries. His offers were published, together with the demands of the allies. This publication completely produced the effect anticipated by Louis's expectations. The people all over France resolved to expend their whole substance in support of their king, and rather to fight his battles without pay than leave him reduced to the direful necessity of complying with such dishonourable terms. The campaign was now opened without further hesitation.

In the course of the negotiation at the Hague, the marquis de Torcy, instructed by the court of St. Germain, mentioned the concerns of the pretender to the duke of Marlborough, who expressed a strong desire of serving effectually *the son of a king, for whom, he said, he would have spilt the last drop of his blood.* His opinion was, that the inte-

rest of the prince of Wales, for so he called the pretender, was to remove entirely from France, to fix his residence elsewhere, and to be the master of his own motions and journies to whatever country he pleased. The means of subsistence were the most difficult point; marquis de Torcy suggested the payment of the dowry of the queen dowager as the best expedient. Marlborough desired him to insist strenuously on that article to the viscount Townshend. "That lord," said he, "is a kind of inspector over my conduct; he is an honest man, but of the whig party; I must speak like an obstinate Englishman in his presence; I wish, however, I could be of any service to the prince of Wales. I hope your solicitations will furnish me with an occasion which I so much desire." Both he and Townshend acknowledged, that if the parliament and the nation should insist upon the removal of the pretender from France they ought to be at the expence of supporting him with a decent dignity and affluence. (*Mem. de Torcy, tom. i. Stuart Papers, 1709. Macpherson, vol. ii. p. 126, &c. &c.*)

The intercourse between Marlborough and Godolphin, and the court of St. Germain, continued in some degree to be carried on by the agents of the latter in England. Marlborough in his correspondence with his nephew the duke of Berwick, made no secret of his absolute and fixed resolution of restoring the excluded family to the British throne. Godolphin, whose attachment was still more sincere, insisted particularly on the prince's removal from the French dominions, as he perceived that the greatest obstacle to his restoration proceeded from the unsurmountable aversion the people entertained against having a king imposed upon them by France. He hoped, he said, by management, to extricate from the hands of France

the pretender, whom he dignified with the name of king, and by gradually reconciling the people to his character and person to insure his succession to his sister's throne. (*Mem. de Torcy, tom. i. Macpherson's Hist. vol. ii. p. 417, &c. &c.*)

Prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough proceeded to Flanders, and towards the end of June the allied army encamped in the plain of Lisle to the number of 110,000 men. Mareschal de Villars assembled the French forces in the plain of Lens, where he threw up entrenchments, so that though with an army much inferior in numbers, he could not be attacked with any probability of success. The confederates undertook the siege of Tournay, June 27th. Marquis de Surville, the governor, surrendered the town July 29th, after twenty-one days from the opening of the trenches, and retreated with the garrison to the citadel, which he gallantly defended until the 5th of September, when his provision being quite exhausted, he was obliged to surrender himself and his garrison prisoners of war.

The next object of the confederates was the siege of Mons, and a strong detachment sent to dislodge a party of the enemy posted in the neighbourhood of that city, was soon after followed by the whole army. Villars, who intended to preserve or relieve the place, passed the Scarpe, but finding himself disappointed in the hopes of arriving at Mons before the main army of the allies, he stopped short at Malplaquet, a village scarcely a league distant from that city, and entrenched himself in that strong position. Prince Eugene and Marlborough being aware of the importance of dislodging the enemy from that post, resolved to attack them the next day, which Villars soon discovered by their motions. The night was accordingly employed by both armies in preparing themselves for action, and

both were seen the next morning ranged in complete order of battle. After an awful suspense and silence for nearly two hours, the firing began at eight o'clock, and in an instant extended from wing to wing. This battle, which took place September 11th, was one of the most bloody and obstinate that had been fought for several ages. The allies were roused by their former victories; the French displayed an impetuous courage and intrepidity bordering on despair, till seeing their lines forced, their left wing and centre giving way, and their general, mareschal Villars, dangerously wounded, they made an admirable retreat towards Bavay, and took post between Le Quesnoi and Valenciennes, under the conduct of mareschal Boufflers, who, although superior to Villars in point of seniority, had nobly submitted, and even solicited to act under his command in an inferior capacity. The chevalier de St. George, charged twelve times with the household troops, and in the last was wounded in the arm. The carnage was immense; the field of battle remained to the confederates, with about forty colours or standards, sixteen pieces of artillery, and a number of prisoners; but this was the dearest victory the allies had ever purchased, as their loss in point of men, killed or wounded, amounted to above 18,000 of their best troops, while that of the French was computed at 15,000. The consequence of that victory was the taking of Mons, which capitulated about the end of October, and both armies were distributed in winter quarters.

The campaign on the Upper Rhine produced no other event than a very sharp action at Rumersheim, between count Mercy, detached with a strong body of troops into Upper Alsace, where he was completely defeated by count Du Bourg, and compelled to repass the Rhine with the shattered remains of his

troops, the greater part of whom had been killed or drowned.

Lewis XIV. either with a view to pave the way to peace, or to reinforce his other armies, had withdrawn his troops from Spain, and devolved on his grandson the defence of his own dominions. That prince, however, reduced to his own resources, obtained considerable advantages over Charles III. and the Portuguese. The chevalier d'Asfeldt took the castle of Alicant; the earl of Galway was totally defeated by the marquis du Bay in the province of Estramadura; and the duke de Noailles, who commanded in Catalonia, obtained some advantages over the allies; but count Starhemberg who commanded the troops of Charles III. in that kingdom, having vainly endeavoured to force the mareschal de Bezons to a battle, took Balaguier in his presence, and with that success put an end to the campaign.

New overtures of peace are made to the states on the part of France, through the resident of Holstein at the Hague; but a memorial being sent by the marquis de Torcy, in which it was declared, that Louis did not intend to treat on the preliminaries which the allies had pretended to impose, but on the foundation of those conditions to which he had consented; the states-general considering this memorial as a proof of the French king's insincerity, resolve to prosecute the war. The present dispositions of the people in England were more favourable to the re-establishment of public tranquillity. The nation bore impatiently the grievous burden of the war, and they began to wish ardently for peace; the more so, that it had not escaped their notice that the terms proposed to the French king, though humiliating to France, were more or less advantageous to all the allies except England, in favour of which, no satisfaction, no concession of territory was mention-

ed, though she had most contributed with troops, with valour, and with treasure to subdue the enemy. These observations were shaped into open complaints by men who had an interest in opposing the ministry. The tories, who had been long borne down by the splendid measures of Marlborough and Godolphin, began again to rear their heads, and to rail at their conduct. The attempts of Harley in the cabinet against their power, were rather suspended than defeated by his removal from office. The violence of the duchess of Marlborough, who seemed inclined to retrieve by force the power she had lost with the queen, contributed to confirm the influence of her rival upon that princess.

Such were the existing circumstances when the session of parliament was opened November 15th. In the speech delivered from the throne, the queen inveighed against the pretended artifices used by France to amuse the allies with false appearances and deceitful insinuations of her desire for peace. Though the contrary was certainly the fact, this manifest deviation from truth, the ministers were not ashamed to employ, to justify the continuation of a war, evidently unnecessary, and therefore, the most odious and unjustifiable of all offences, whose authors, whoever they may be, deserve to be answerable for all the bloodshed that ensues. The commons, however, little suspecting that a royal speech could contain any thing but truth, granted with great unanimity and zeal, all the necessary supplies for the next year's service, amounting to 6,184,466*l.* 7*s.*

The principal business of this session, or rather that which made by far the greatest noise, related to one Dr. Sacheverel, a bold, insolent man, with a very small share of religion, learning, or good sense, who endeavoured to force himself into popularity and preferment by the most petulant rail-

ings at dissenters, in several sermons and libels, full of indecent and scurrilous language. At the summer assizes at Derby, where he preached before the judges, and on the 5th of November at St. Paul's, having given full vent to his violence on his usual topics, he asserted the doctrine of non-resistance in the highest strain possible, and said, that to charge the revolution with the doctrine of resistance, was to cast black and odious imputations on it; pretending that the late king had disowned it in his declaration, by which he vindicated himself from a design of conquest. He maintained, that the church was violently attacked by her enemies, and loosely defended by her pretended friends, for which, he said, he sounded the trumpet, and animated the people to put on the whole armour of God and stand up for the defence of the church.

The party who opposed the ministry, so highly extolled this sermon, that 40,000 copies of it were spread over the kingdom. The whigs in general shewed great eagerness to punish severely the man who attacked with such boldness those principles which they had held forth so long to the world, and called Sacheverel a popish persecutor, an enemy to the revolution, and a devoted friend to the pretender. They proposed, therefore, an impeachment, as the most dignified mode of proceeding against a man in whose person they resolved to punish his whole party. He was accordingly taken into custody and instantly impeached. The high church party flew into the most violent resentment; whole people were roused to attention. The emissaries of the two parties spread the flame; alarms daily increased; and public business and private concerns were equally neglected. All looked forward with eagerness to this only point, as if the fate of the nation entirely depended on the issue of Sache-

verel's impeachment, and the year ended in the midst of the ferment raised by this extraordinary affair.

Ann. 1710.

The articles of impeachment against Dr. Sacheverel were, his suggesting and maintaining that the necessary means for effectuating the late revolution, were odious and unjustifiable; that the toleration to dissenters was both unreasonable and unwarrantable; that the church of England was in danger under the queen's administration; that there were persons in office who endeavoured to overturn the constitution; and that through the whole management of affairs, there was a general mal-administration and corruption. The clergy in general espoused his cause, and every where the pulpits resounded with his praise. His trial began on the 27th of February at Westminster-hall, and continued during three weeks. The commons in a grand committee assisted at it. The populace daily attended him from his lodging to Westminster-hall, rending the air with acclamations of applause, threatening several peers of the opposite party, and insulting such members of the house of commons, as were most eager against their favourite. The lords declared as the result of the debate, that the articles of impeachment were proved, and after many difficulties and hesitations about the censure which should be passed on Sacheverel, he was suspended for three years from preaching, and his sermon was ordered to be burnt by the hand of the common hangman. The lenity of the sentence was in a great measure owing to the dread of popular resentment, and Sacheverel's friends considering it as a victory obtained over the whig faction, cele-

brated their triumph with bonfires and illuminations.

A few days after this sentence was issued, the parliament was prorogued, April 5th.

Lewis XIV. seeing the distresses of his subjects daily increasing, makes again, through the resident of Holstein, earnest applications to the allies for the restoration of peace, and sends a new project consisting of the five following articles :

I. Immediately after the signing of the peace, the French king will acknowledge king Charles as the king of the whole monarchy of Spain ; and not only withdraw all the succours he has given his grandson, but also forbear sending him any assistance, forbid his subjects to enlist in his service, and consent that no part of the monarchy of Spain should ever be united to France.

II. He will restore to the emperor, Strasbourg and Brisac, content himself with Alsatia, leave Landau to the empire, raze the fortifications he has built on the Rhine from Basil to Philipsburg, and acknowledge both the king of Prussia and the elector of Hanover.

III. He will acknowledge queen Anne and the succession in the protestant line, restore Newfoundland, and agree to a mutual restitution of all that has been taken in the West Indies on both sides, demolish the fortifications and harbour of Dunkirk, and consent to the pretender's leaving France.

IV. He will yield to the states-general, for a barrier, all the places specified in the 22d article of the preliminaries, and confirm what he has offered to them respecting their trade.

V. As to the duke of Savoy, he is willing to grant the demands made for him by the allies ; but he demands that the electors of Cologne and Bavaria should be restored to their estates and dignities.

These overtures being rejected, another plan was offered by the marquis de Torcy, but with no better success. The resident of Holstein intimated to him, that the allies required his most christian majesty should declare in plain and positive terms, that he consented to all the preliminaries they had already proposed, except the 37th article, which stipulated a cessation of arms, in case the Spanish monarchy should be delivered to king Charles in the space of two months; nay, they even reserved to themselves a power of making ulterior demands after the preliminaries should be adjusted. Lewis, consulting much less his own dignity than the miseries of his people, condescended to this haughty demand. Passports were accordingly sent for the mareschal d'Huxelles and the abbé de Polignac, his plenipotentiaries, to repair to Gertruydenberg, the place appointed for the congress. They agreed to wave every demand of an equivalent for the cession of the Spanish monarchy. They even offered a subsidy of a million of livres a month to the allies, till king Philip should be driven from Spain. But the deputies of the states rose in their demands in proportion as France increased her concessions; and they insisted that Lewis, instead of paying the subsidy he offered, should assist the allies with all his forces to expel his grandson from the throne. Lewis, indignant at such insolent unnatural demands, recalled his plenipotentiaries, and resolved to run the hazard of another campaign, not without hope that some lucky incident in the events of war, or the approaching revolution in the English ministry, of which he was well apprised, might be productive of a more reasonable pacification. Thus broke the negotiation at Gertruydenberg after having lasted from the 19th of March to the 25th of July.

The conferences did not retard the operations of the campaign. Prince Eugene and the duke of

Marlborough, on the 15th of March, set out for Tournay, where the army of the allies was to assemble. On the 20th of April they suddenly advanced to Pont-à-Vendin, entered the French lines without resistance, and determined on the siege of Douay, as that place covered Lisle and their other conquests in Flanders. The trenches were open on the 4th of May, and the place surrendered on the 25th of June. The confederates took successively Bethune, St. Venant, and Aire; but they lost 26,000 men. Half their infantry was ruined by wounds, diseases, and fatigue. Mareschal de Villars, who commanded the French army, and watched for an opportunity of attacking the enemy with advantage, could never find it. The garrison of Ypres, however, cut off a convoy with military stores, carried in boats along the Lys, under the command of the earl of Athlone. His whole body of infantry, consisting of more than 1000 men, were either slain or taken. The cavalry were broken and dispersed, the boats and stores abandoned to the enemy.

The war on the side of Germany, as well as in Savoy, produced no event of importance. But the campaign was rendered memorable in Spain by the alternate defeats of the two pretenders to the throne of that kingdom. Charles obtained at first two signal victories at Almenara and Saragossa, which compelled Philip to abandon a second time the capital to his rival, and retire to Valladolid. But he fortunately was met there by the duke of Vendome, whom Lewis, on Philip's earnest solicitations, had consented to send him as a compensation for the withdrawing of all the French troops from Spain, and the compensation soon proved adequate to the loss. Vendome's reputation was so high, and his person so beloved by the soldiery, that the news of his arrival generally revived confidence and courage among the Spaniards. At his name only, numbers

of volunteers immediately ran from all sides to signalize themselves under the eye of this renowned general; so that Philip, in less than three months after his defeat at Saragossa, was in a condition to go in quest of his rival. In the beginning of November Charles marched back to Saragossa, and was cantoned in the neighbourhood of Cifuentes, where general Starhemberg established his headquarters. General Stanhope, with the British forces, was quartered in the little town of Brihuega, where he found himself suddenly surrounded by the whole Spanish army, and obliged to surrender himself and all his forces prisoners of war, to the amount of 2000 men. Starhemberg, who marched to his assistance with his whole army, was met and attacked near Villa Viciosa by Vendome, who utterly defeated his left wing, all the infantry that composed it being either cut in pieces or taken; but the victors, instead of improving the advantage, began to plunder the baggage, while Starhemberg, with his right wing fought their left, with as much valour as perseverance, till night, when he was compelled to retire in disorder, leaving the enemy master of the field of battle and of all his artillery. He retired with his army to Saragossa, and soon after to Catalonia. Thither he was pursued by Vendome, who reduced Saragossa and Balaguier, in which Starhemberg had left a garrison.

At this period the duke de Noailles invested and took the fortress of Gironna. Thus king Philip, from a fugitive, became in three months absolute master of the whole Spanish monarchy, except Catalonia.

In the Mediterranean, sir John Norris, with a view to support the Camisars, who were in arms in the Cevennes, sailed to the small port and town of Certe, which surrendered without opposition. He likewise rendered himself master of the town and

castle of Agde ; but the duke de Noailles hastening from Roussillon with 900 horse, 100 grenadiers, and some artillery, compelled the English to abandon their conquest, and they re-embarked with precipitation.

While the indecisive events of the campaign left the affairs abroad nearly in the same situation as they were at its beginning, the most important changes were preparing at home, and the trial of Dr. Sacheverel did not contribute a little in hastening their execution. This occurrence being one of the most curious of queen Anne's reign, requires some elucidation.

As long as the duchess of Marlborough retained the affections and exclusive confidence of the queen, her unbounded influence over the mind of that timid princess, was sufficient to support effectually the unparalleled authority assumed by the duke of Marlborough, and the credit of his intimate friend Godolphin, against the attacks of either of the two irreconcilable parties, which for so many years divided and harassed the nation by their noisy contests : but when the haughtiness and arrogance of the duchess had destroyed that influence, by converting it into the most intolerable tyranny, they found it necessary to strengthen their power against the queen herself and the intrigues of her new advisers, by reinforcing their personal popularity, by forming a close and solid connection with the whigs, the most popular of both parties ; and this was easily effected by admitting their leaders into places of trust and profit. This political alliance enabled them to hold their sovereign in chains, which they thought she could never shake off, nor would even attempt it with the only assistance of the tories, discredited as they were. Harley himself, who though out of office, continued to be the queen's confidential adviser, and in great measure the soul of her resolu-

tions, could form no reasonable expectations on the recovery of her authority, unless any circumstances occurred which, by being judiciously managed and improved, might turn the minds of the people against the whigs, and in favour of the tories, and the trial of Dr. Sacheverel proved the best opportunity to answer that purpose. Religion had constantly been the means chiefly employed by the whigs to gain the populace to their views, by alarming their zeal for the protestant church. They had often triumphed over their political opponents by exciting popular clamours on the pretended danger which threatened religion. The tories, on the other hand, were not remiss in their endeavours to possess themselves with an engine that so much annoyed them. They propagated with great zeal that the protestant religion, and even the protestant succession, had no enemies more dangerous than the dissenters, a sect which the whigs generally either favoured or belonged to. The established clergy supported the same doctrines with the eloquence of the pulpit, and professed likewise the opinion of non-resistance, as the only safe-guard to the monarchical government. The unthinking multitude took little or no notice of these questions as long as their discussion was confined to polemical pamphlets, which they did not read, or sermons to which they did not attend. But when they saw Dr. Sacheverel so rigorously prosecuted for having maintained those principles in one of his sermons, the solemnity and length of his trial, the vehemence of the whigs in throwing the whole weight of government in the scale against a private person, raised a general sympathy in his favour, and the highest indignation against his enemies. The people espoused at once his cause and his opinions with an enthusiasm bordering on fanaticism; and that passion was improved into acts of violence by the art and cla-

mours of zealots of the high church party, and the private manœuvres of Harley and his followers. The current, which had long been changing, ran down with a force that levelled every thing in its course. Addresses were brought up from all parts, in which the absolute power of the queen was asserted, all resistance condemned, and her hereditary right acknowledged. Most of them concluded with their hopes that her majesty would dissolve the present parliament, giving assurances that in new elections they would choose none but such as should be faithful to the crown and zealous for the church. Contrary addresses were also procured by the whigs, but by far less numerous.

Thus was managed and ripened that opportunity so much longed for by the tories, and in which the power of Marlborough, his abettors and adherents, might be attacked with a great probability of success. The queen herself, encouraged by the clamours of the people, had already opened the attack, by appointing two bishops without consulting her ministers, and by writing to the duke in the month of January to ask him the regiment vacated by the death of the earl of Essex, for Mr. Hill, the brother of Mrs. Masham, who, the duke well knew, was at that time undermining his own interests and that of his friends. The queen's new counsellors had well calculated, that if the duke yielded on this point, it would sow discontent among the officers, and lessen his weight and authority in the army, wherein a door would be opened to his enemies; and, on the other hand, if he did not comply with her majesty's demand, his resistance would furnish a most plausible ground for grievous complaints, that the queen was but a cypher, and could do nothing.

Upon the queen's letter, Marlborough represented to her what a prejudice it would be to her service to

so young an officer preferred before so many others of higher rank and longer service; but the only answer he could obtain was, that he would do well to advise with his friends. The duke retired in disgust to the country. The queen, at the next council, did not ask where he was, and took no notice of his absence, which however made a great deal of noise in the town. He threatened to resign the command of the army, and employed his friends to terrify the queen and her favourite with addresses from the parliament for Mrs. Masham's removal from the queen's presence and service. The earl of Sunderland, the duke's son-in-law, then secretary of state, had formed a design to procure such a vote of the commons. Apprised of this intended violence, Hill entreated the queen to desist from her demand in his favour. She complied with his request, but it became evident that she was resolved to seize the first favourable opportunity of ridding herself of servants whom she now considered as tyrants. One month after this, both houses of parliament addressed the queen to send the duke of Marlborough over to Holland, to attend to the great affair of peace, or to prepare for an early opening of the campaign. In her answer to this address she used these words: "*I am very glad to find that you concur with me in a just sense of the duke of Marlborough's eminent services.*" But he was no sooner gone than she granted a pension of 1000*l.* a-year to Mr. Hill; and some time after she made both him and Mr. Masham general officers.

The changes in the administration, which soon after became general, began in the middle of April, by appointing to the office of chamberlain, resigned by the earl of Kent, the duke of Shrewsbury, who had distinguished himself against the ministry in the debates concerning Sacheverel. The people

now convinced that the principles of the whigs were dangerous to monarchy, and destructive to the church, were prepared for an important change, and wished for it. They descended from general observations on parties to accusations of individuals. They complained that the ministry, consisting chiefly of one family, had excluded all others from every influence and power in the state; while they held the sovereign herself, *their good queen Anne*, in the most abject slavery. They observed, that naval affairs were absolutely neglected; that the war in Spain, though the first object of contest, was sacrificed to the glory of Marlborough in Flanders; that his conquests produced no advantage to the nation; that his power was formidable, his wealth immense, his avarice insatiable, &c. &c.

Lord Sunderland was dismissed the office, June 14th, and the next day lord Dartmouth was appointed to succeed him. The queen received on this occasion many addresses and congratulations, for having emancipated herself from the dependance of an insolent tyrannical junto, who kept her in slavery; and it was said that the duke of Beaufort, who came to court to pay his respects to her majesty, told her, *that he was extremely glad that he could now salute her queen of England*. The whigs, considering the removal of Sunderland as a sure forerunner of greater changes, and particularly of the lord treasurer, in whose capacity and punctuality the monied men reposed an entire confidence, were the more alarmed at it, that the greatest part of their wealth was lodged in the public funds. They propagated that the credit of the nation wholly depended on lord Godolphin, and to support this assertion, they contrived to sink the price of the national stocks, and their withdrawing at once their own money from the funds answered their purpose so far as to induce the directors of the bank of Eng-

land to represent to the queen the danger likely to attend the changing of her principal servants. The emperor and the states-general, at the suggestion of the duke of Marlborough, interposed for the ministry, by representing the fatal consequences which their removal might now produce for the grand alliance. The queen dissembling the resentment she felt at such an improper interference, answered to the emperor's ambassador, that whatever changes she might make at home, the duke of Marlborough should continue to manage the war abroad.

The design of turning out the earl of Sunderland from his office had no sooner reached the duke, who was then at the head of the army, than he wrote a very moving letter to the queen, representing the very ill consequences it would necessarily have upon all affairs abroad, to have his son-in-law, against whose fidelity nothing could be objected, and in whom the allies had so entire a confidence, turned out of her service in the middle of a campaign. The duchess wrote likewise to the queen, begging, for the duke of Marlborough's sake, that her majesty would not give him such a blow, of which she dreaded the consequence. To this the queen wrote a short and harsh answer, and returned none to the duke. On the 8th of August the earl of Godolphin was divested of his office, and the treasury put in commission under the direction of Harley, appointed chancellor of the exchequer and under treasurer. It now appeared that a total change of the ministry and the dissolution of the parliament were resolved on, and this resolution was successively executed in a very short time, except with respect to the duke of Marlborough, who still continued to command the army.

In the mean time Sacheverel, being presented to a living in North Wales, went down to take posses-

sion of it, and as he passed through the counties, both going and coming, he was every where received and followed by such numbers, and entertained with such honours and magnificence, that no princes in their progresses have been more run after than he was.

Marlborough, enraged at the intelligence he received of Sunderland's disgrace, wrote instantly to the duke of Berwick, and offered his services to the court of St. Germain. Though he had often disappointed their hopes, they resolved to treat him with an appearance of confidence, as his present situation obliged him to form new engagements for his own safety. The pretender was at that time serving in Flanders under mareschal de Villars. The queen-mother wrote therefore an answer to the duke, and Villars transmitted it to him by a trumpet. She expressed her surprise to find that he entertained ideas of quitting his high command. "Your retreat," she said, "will render you useless to your friends and an easy prey to your enemies; you are too large a mark to be missed by the shafts of malice. . . . Throw not away, therefore, the means of supporting yourself, and assisting your friends. You are lost if you quit your employments; but there is great difficulty in keeping them with dignity. . . . The time is precious to you and important to my son. You desire us to apply to Mrs. Masham, the new favourite of the princess Anne. How can we, my lord, apply to a stranger? Mrs. Masham owes us no obligation; she has neither pledged her faith nor promised her assistance. You have repeatedly done both, my lord; and now it is in your power to place my son in a situation to protect yourself." (*Stuart Papers*, 1710. *Macpherson's Hist. vol. ii. p. 454, &c.*)

Marlborough continued to hold a friendly

communication with the pretender, and wrote repeatedly concerning him to Villars, always expressing an anxious concern for his health and the prosperity of his affairs. But how painful it is, to be compelled by the imperious commands of justice and truth, not to pass over in silence, that at the same time, at the very date of Marlborough's correspondence with the pretender, he was not ashamed to write the following letter to the elector of Hanover, a letter which plainly shows, to what degree of baseness any man may be degraded, when he allows himself to be carried away by the most powerful of all passions, ambition, hatred, and revenge !

“ Sir,

August 30, 1710.

“ I am not able to express to your electoral highness, how truly sensible I am of the great marks of confidence which you did me the honour of giving to me by general Bulau. I entreat your highness to be persuaded that I shall endeavour to deserve them, *by an inviolable attachment to your interests, with which I consider those of my country and of Europe as inseparably connected.* I hope there never will be found in England a considerable number of men who can be seduced to a degree capable of ruining it, by allowing themselves to be imposed upon by the artifices of Mr. Harley and others, who conduct themselves at present in a manner to leave it no longer a doubt, that their views tend to bring back the pretended prince of Wales I flatter myself that your electoral highness does me the justice to believe, that I shall act in all things after the manner which you will judge most conducive to your interest . . . I hope to be able to employ usefully my attentions, my credit, and my friends, for advancing the interests of your electoral highness, and of your serene family ;

“ and for preventing at the same time the pernicious designs of those men, who want to establish principles, and form cabals and projects, which will probably overturn the protestant succession, and with it the safety and liberty of their country and of all Europe.” (*Hanover Papers*, 1710. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. ii. p. 189, &c.)

Thus that first general of Europe, whose military glory was never surpassed; that renowned hero, whose victories and conquests could not be exactly reckoned, but by the exact number of the battles he had fought, of the towns he had attacked; in short, that great duke of Marlborough was now turned a vile informer, a despicable double dealer.

If, however, a multitude of offenders could ever be a palliation for any offence, it might be said with truth, that, from the revolution, double dealing was the part acted by the great majority of all men in office, as almost all of them, though attached to the usurper, entertained a correspondence, more or less regular, with the court of St. Germain, and even the present ministry, Harley, St. John, the dukes of Leeds, of Buckingham, of Shrewsbury, &c. &c. making at the same time professions of attachment both to the pretender and the elector of Hanover, were nothing better than a set of double dealers.

The nation, utterly unacquainted with those intrigues, was still actuated by that spirit of enthusiasm and animosity, which had been produced by Sacheverel's trial, and it had such an effect upon the elections for a new parliament, that very few were returned as members but such as had distinguished themselves against the whig administration. They met November 25th. The queen, in her speech, recommended a vigorous prosecution of the war, particularly in Spain; and declared herself resolved to support the church of England, the British con-

stitution according to the union, and to employ none but such as were heartily attached to the protestant succession in the house of Hanover. The lords, in their address promised to concur in all reasonable measures towards procuring an honourable peace. The commons exhorted her majesty to a discontinuance of all such principles and measures as had lately threatened the royal crown and dignity. They afterwards considered the estimates of the ensuing year's expences, and cheerfully voted adequate supplies. The debts provided for, and the sums raised, in the course of this session, amounted to 14,573,319*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* out of which three millions and a half were raised by two lotteries.

The duke of Marlborough arrived in London, waited the same day upon the queen, who had a conversation with him of about half an hour, and told him that he was not to expect the thanks of the two houses as formerly. She added, that she expected he would live well with her ministers. The duke finding her majesty's prepossessions against his duchess were not to be overcome, carried a resignation of all her places to the queen. She was groom of the stole, had the robes, and the privy purse; this last place was conferred on Mrs. Masham.

Ann. 1711.

During the short recess of parliament intelligence of ill success in Spain being received, the lords observed, that this misfortune might have been occasioned by some preceding mismanagement, and they immediately entered into an inquiry concerning the affairs of Spain, the result of which was a censure passed upon the late ministry, and the earl of Galway, one of the generals. The commons were no less intent upon what seemed to be

the principal business of this session, to cast an odium on the late ministry. They voted, upon examinations relating to the navy, that there had been notorious embezzlements and scandalous abuses in contracts for furnishing beer, and one of their members, concerned in these contracts, was expelled the house.

At this juncture some suspicions arose in the house of commons that the court was yet in some management with the whigs, which was imputed to Mr. Harley, and on that account an opposition began to form against him: but an odd accident, which endangered his life, rescued him from the political danger which threatened him. The abbé de la Bourlie, a French adventurer, who had made his escape from his own country for some crime, and had assumed the name of marquis de Guiscard, had been employed in the rank of colonel in the English army, and had obtained from the queen a pension of 500*l.* a-year. Mr. Harley, who never liked him, not only reduced his pension to 400*l.* but declined to have it settled on a fixed establishment. The marquis, highly disgusted with it, tried to make his peace with the court of France, and wrote to that purpose to a banker in Paris. His correspondence, which was completely that of a spy, being intercepted, he was apprehended and brought to the cockpit in the height of despair. In the room where he was confined he saw a penknife among pens in a standish, and took it unperceived by the messengers who watched him. A committee of council being summoned on this extraordinary occasion, the marquis was brought before them to be examined. Mr. St. John asked him several questions about his corresponding with France, to which he returned evasive answers. His correspondence with the banker at Paris being produced, he saw himself discovered, and despairing of pardon, he desired

to speak in private to secretary St. John. His request being refused, he stepped up to Mr. Harley, and exclaiming, "Have at thee, then !" stabbed him in the breast with the penknife he had concealed, which lighting on the bone, broke about half an inch from the handle ; nevertheless, he repeated the blow with such force, that Mr. Harley fell to the ground. Secretary St. John, seeing him fall, cried out, " The villain has killed Mr. Harley !" and drew his sword. The other members followed the example, and wounded Guiscard in several places ; yet he made a desperate defence, until he was overpowered by the messengers and servants. His wounds were not mortal, but he died a few days after of a gangrene occasioned by the bruises he had received.

This attempt upon the life of Harley, by a man convicted of a traitorous correspondence with France, dissipated so completely all doubts respecting that minister's integrity, that when he came first to the house of commons after his recovery, he was by their order congratulated by the speaker in a set flattering speech, wherein he prayed, " that " the same Providence that had wonderfully preserved him, and had raised him up to be an instrument of great good at a very critical juncture, " when it was much wanted, might continue still " to preserve so invaluable a life, for the perfecting " of what was so happily begun."

Mr. Harley is created baron of Wigmore and earl of Oxford and Mortimer, two of the most noble titles in the English heraldry. In the beginning of April the emperor dies of the small-pox. The queen addressed on this occasion a message to the parliament, importing that she had come to a resolution to use her utmost endeavours to get the king of Spain made emperor, and giving some intimation of the project which the ministry afterwards pub-

licly avowed, to make a peace by yielding Spain and the West Indies to king Philip, not only because the conquest of them for king Charles was attended with insuperable difficulties, but also because, if practicable, it would tend, in their opinion, to fix on the same head both the Imperial and the Spanish crown, and therefore to destroy effectually and definitively that balance of Europe which was the chief object of the grand alliance.

As the whigs had endeavoured to persuade the people, that the credit of the nation must be ruined by the removal of the earl of Godolphin from the treasury; the new chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Harley, now lord Oxford, undertook to convince them that these alarms had no foundation. He provided accordingly for all the debts left on the different departments by his predecessors, and proposed a grand project to the commons for discharging all the public debts, and for making good all deficiencies of supplies. The whole debt unprovided for was thrown into one stock. Funds were established to pay an interest of six per cent. which, however, were not to commence till the end of five years, and the parliament engaged themselves to make an annual provision for the interest in the intermediate time. Together with this interest, the monopoly of an intended trade to the South Sea, or coast of Peru, in America, was granted to the proprietors of this stock. The possessors of navy bills and other public securities were incorporated for this purpose. This scheme, received with eagerness by the commons, was, however, the more chimerical, that the projector, lord Oxford, knew very well that a negotiation was at hand, which by the cession of Spain and the West Indies to king Philip, would for ever exclude the English from the privileges of trading to Peru or Mexico. This scheme, however, raised a great enthusiasm all over the

↓

nation, and produced what is called the South-Sea Company.

In the mean time a committee was appointed to examine the public accounts, with a view to fix an imputation on the earl of Godolphin; on the report of that committee the commons voted that above 35,000,000 of the money granted by parliament remained unaccounted for; and at the end of the session, a representation was addressed to the queen, earnestly beseeching her that she would give immediate and effectual directions for compelling the several accomptants speedily to pass the accounts. This representation was immediately spread through the nation, and produced the intended effect against the late ministry. However, the report of the committee was not published, though it was ordered to be printed; and it afterwards appeared by the statements of the auditors of the public accounts (imprest), that of the 35,000,000*l.* above 30 were accounted for, though not all passed, and that the total to be accounted for, amounted only to 4,330,135*l.*

During these public transactions, it appears that a secret correspondence was entertained between the queen and her brother, who wrote to her in the month of March, a letter containing the following passages:—

“ The natural affection I bear you, and that the
“ king, our father, had for you till his last breath;
“ the consideration of our mutual interest, honour,
“ and safety, and the duty I owe to God and my
“ country, are the true motives that persuade me
“ to write to you, and to do all that is possible for
“ me to come to a perfect union with you; and
“ you may be assured, madam, that though I can
“ never abandon, but with my life, my own just
“ right, which you know is unalterably settled by
“ the most fundamental laws of the land; yet, I am

“ most desirous rather to owe to you, than to any
“ living, the recovery of it. It is for yourself that
“ a work so just and glorious is reserved. The
“ voice of God and nature calls you to it ; the pro-
“ mises you made to the king our father enjoin it ;
“ the preservation of our family, the preventing of
“ unnatural wars, require it ; and the public good
“ and welfare of our country recommend it to you,
“ to rescue it from present and future evils, which
“ must, to the latest posterity, involve the nation
“ in blood and confusion, till the succession be
“ again settled in the right line. I am satisfied,
“ that if you will be guided by your own inclina-
“ tion, you will readily comply with so just and
“ fair a proposal, as to prefer your own brother,
“ the last male of our name, to the duchess of Han-
“ over, the remotest relation we have. . . . In the
“ mean time, I assure you, madam, and am ready
“ to give all the security that can be desired, that
“ it is my unalterable resolution to make the law of
“ the land the rule of my government, to preserve
“ any man’s right, liberty, and property, equally
“ with the rights of the crown ; and to secure and
“ maintain those of the church of England, in all
“ their just rights and privileges, as by law established.
“ . . . Your own good nature, madam, and your
“ natural affection to a brother from whom you
“ never received any injury, cannot but incline
“ your heart to do him justice ; and, as it is in your
“ power, I cannot doubt of your good inclinations.
“ . . . But, as affairs of this moment cannot be so
“ well transacted by letters, I must conjure you to
“ send one over to me fully instructed and em-
“ powered by you, or to give security for such
“ a one from me. . . . I conjure you to meet
“ me in this friendly way of composing our
“ differences, by which only we can hope for those
“ good effects which will make us both happy,

“yourself more glorious than all the other parts
“of your life, and your memory dear to all posterity.”

The following, dated May 2d, 1711, proves that the queen wrote likewise to her brother:—“In answer to yours, I cannot, at this distance, and in my present circumstances, enter into disputes of religion; but those of the church of England have no reason to doubt of my favour and protection. . . . Plain dealing is best in all things, especially in matters of religion; and as I am resolved never to dissemble in religion, so I shall never tempt others to do it, and as well as I am satisfied of the truth of my own religion; yet, I shall never look worse upon any persons, because in this they chance to differ with me; nor shall I refuse, in due time and place, to hear what they have to say upon this subject; but they must not take it ill if I use the same liberty I allow to others, to adhere to the religion which I, in my conscience, think the best; and I may reasonably expect that liberty of conscience for myself which I deny to none.” (*Stuart Papers*, 1711. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. ii. p. 223 to 226. *Ditto Hist.* vol. ii. p. 481.)

Whatever effect these warm representations had on the mind of the queen, the prince's solicitations made no decisive impression on her servants. The earl of Oxford was still entirely ignorant of her majesty's real sentiments respecting the succession to the crown. He knew only, that with a natural attachment to the continuance of her own authority, she was equally averse to the appearance of either of the candidates in the kingdom; but her very silence with regard to her brother, induced him to conclude that she wished to leave the sceptre, at her own death, in his hands.

The duke of Marlborough assembled his army

near Douay, in the beginning of May. Conscious that his disgrace was near, he wished earnestly, either to overwhelm his enemies at home with the splendour of a great victory, or at least to dignify with an action of great renown the period of his retreat. Prince Eugene did not join the grand army till the 23d of May, Mareschal de Villars, strongly posted behind his lines at Arlaix, disappointed all their efforts for bringing him to a battle. At this juncture the preparations of the enemy alarming the empire, prince Eugene received positive orders from Vienna to march with the Imperial and Palatine troops to the Upper Rhine. Marlborough, with the rest of the army, marched towards the plains of Lens, in sight of the French, where he continued till the 20th of July; when, after many marches, counter-marches, and the most skilful manœuvres, he entered the French lines without the loss of a man, advanced with great rapidity, and took his position between Oisy and Estrun, where the army encamped. On the 10th of August he invested Bouchain, and took that important place on the 13th of September. The armies remained in the field till the month of October, when the duke closed at once the campaign and his glorious military career.

In Germany, Savoy, and Spain, a general languor seemed to prevail on every side, and the campaign produced no events of importance. The operations at sea were no less insignificant. The combined fleet was, as usual, numerous, expensive, and inactive. The ministry had conceived great expectations from an expedition against Quebec and Placentia, which, however, completely failed, with the loss of eight transports and 800 men, because the navigation of the river St. Lawrence was then unknown.

In the Irish parliament, held during the summer,

the majority of the peers supported the tory interest, while the commons expressed the warmest attachment to the principles of the revolution. In Scotland, the jacobites openly professed their principles, and affection to the pretender. The duchess of Gordon sent as a present to the faculty of advocates, a silver medal, with a head on one side, and this legend, *Cujus est?* Whose is it? and on the reverse the British Islands, with this motto, *Reddite, Restore*. Three days after, the most hearty thanks were returned to her, "for all her favours, particularly in presenting them with a medal of their sovereign lord the king; hoping, and being confident, that her grace would very soon have an opportunity of complimenting the faculty with a second medal, struck upon the restoration of the king, the finishing rebellion, usurping tyranny, and whiggery." On a complaint from the resident of Hanover respecting this offence, the queen's lord advocate, sir David Dalrymple, was removed from his office, as having been too remiss in prosecuting those delinquents.

From the end of April a negociation had been carrying on between the courts of France and England, on a memorial which the cabinet of Versailles, distrusting the inclination of the Dutch to peace, had transmitted to the English government by means of one abbé Gaultier, a chaplain to the Imperial legation. Lord Jersey having recommended him to the new ministry, as a man whose discretion might be trusted, they employed the earl to give verbal instructions to him respecting the queen's favourable dispositions towards peace, and to send him immediately to France, from whence he returned with this memorial, and a letter of compliment from the marquis de Torcy to the earl of Jersey. Some explanations being desired by the ministers on several articles of the memorial, they

were soon procured by the abbé Gaultier, who still continued to be on both sides the intermediate agent of the correspondence which prepared the congress of Utrecht; he was even more than once sent to Versailles, and the last time he was accompanied by Mr. Prior, a man of uncommon ability and insinuating address, who had resided in France as secretary to the embassies of the earls of Portland and Jersey.

The French memorial was at this time communicated privately to the grand pensionary, Heinsius, and to his colleague, Mr. Buys. They found some articles vague, and expressed a desire that the French king would communicate a more particular plan for securing the interests of the allied powers, and for settling the repose of Europe. Though they owned that the matter contained in the offers of France was good, and included all that the allies could ask or expect, yet they disapproved the method of entering into any negociation upon a memorial, and insisted that none should take place but on specific preliminaries agreed on in the usual way by the beligerent powers. In the mean time intrigues were set on foot by Dutch private agents, to wrest the negociation from the queen's hands, by insinuating to the French ministry, that if they were inclined to renew the conferences at Gertruydenberg, they would find the states-general better disposed than any other power to agree with any reasonable terms.

On the 18th of October Monsieur Buys came to London, and exerted his rhetoric in support of the objections of the grand pensionary. Another point of his instructions was to recommend to her majesty that she would not suffer herself so far to be amused by a treaty of peace, as to neglect the necessary preparations for war. On his arrival, and upon a report that he came to retard the peace, the

monied-men were so alarmed, that the stocks fell from fourteen to six.

During that time, however, the negotiation was going on very secretly; and to overthrow the objection respecting preliminaries, it had been agreed on between the French and English ministry, that the queen would state her preliminary demands for Great Britain, and that the French king would give his answers to the several articles. The mission of Mr. Prior to Paris was to deliver the memorial of the preliminary demands, and to receive the answers. But as he had no power to negotiate, or to enter into any explanation, Mr. Mesnager, deputy to the board of trade, accompanied the English minister to London, with full power to settle the answers to the preliminary demands, and they were signed on the 27th of September. These demands consisted principally in the acknowledgment of the title of queen Anne, and the succession of the crown in the protestant line; the demolition of Dunkirk, a new treaty of commerce, the cession of Gibraltar and Portmahon; the negro-trade in America, some towns as refreshing places for the ships employed in the transportation of slaves to that part of the world; that the advantages in commerce already granted, or hereafter to be allowed by Spain to France, or any other nation, should be extended to the subjects of Great Britain; that Newfoundland, Hudson's-bay, and Straits, should be restored to England. This last article was referred to the conferences on the treaty; all the other demands were granted. The secretary of state, Henry St. John, afterwards viscount Bolingbroke, sent immediately a copy of the whole instrument to the queen, with a letter containing the following passage: "I beg leave to add, that this agreement contains more advantages for your majesty's kingdoms than were ever, perhaps, stipulated for any nation at one time."

The interests of Great Britain being thus separately adjusted and ascertained, other preliminary articles for the attainment of a general peace were agreed on a few days after, and signed by Mr. Mesnager on the part of France; they contained a satisfactory answer to all reasonable demands that could be formed by the allies; and though it was stipulated that they would be of no force until the signing of the general peace, it cannot be denied that the French king was in great measure engaged by them, though the allies were not so in the least. The mareschal d'Huxelles, the abbé, afterwards cardinal de Polignac, and Mr. Mesnager were appointed, October 21st, plenipotentiaries for France to the conferences for the peace which were to be opened on the 12th of January. Robinson, bishop of Bristol, and the earl of Strafford, were the plenipotentiaries appointed by the queen, and Mr. Prior was adjoined to them.

Though the duke of Marlborough had taken the ply of submitting with the utmost resignation to the queen, and of re-establishing a confidence with those who were now in her service, yet they did not think proper to entrust him with the secret of this negotiation, and the preliminaries were signed without his having been consulted. His high mind, long accustomed to direct the British cabinet, conceived a disgust on this occasion, which hurried him into all the violent measures of the opposition party. (*Bolingbroke's Letters*, vol. i. p. 384.) Thenceforth he discontinued his correspondence with the ministers, and began again, according to custom, to turn his eyes towards the court of St. Germain. He admitted their agents to his privacy and conversation. He signified his unalterable attachment to the pretender, and regretted that he was not likely to be employed in concluding the peace, as he might have done essential service to the

old cause. "But peace," he said, "and all that has been done, favours the cause of the king; the eyes of the people will be gradually opened; they will see their interest in restoring their king; God, who rules above, seems visibly to dispose all for the best." From these observations he descended to articles of information and advice. Presuming that the ministers would insist upon the king's retiring to Italy, his opinion was that he should never consent to it.

"To retire to Italy," he swore, "by the living God, is the same thing as to stab him to the heart. Let him take refuge on this side of the Alps. He wants no security for his person; none will touch a hair of his head. I perceive such a change in his favour, that I think it impossible but he must succeed. But when he shall succeed, let there be no retrospect towards the past. All that has been done since the revolution, must be confirmed. His business is to gain all by offending none." (*Stuart Papers*, 1711. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. ii. p. 228. *Macpherson's Hist.* vol. ii. p. 502, &c.)

The duke at the same time, and in the same warm manner, had undertaken to support the interest of the elector of Hanover; and a few days after he had made these vehement professions to the pretender, he embarked for England, accompanied by the baron de Bothmar, the minister of Hanover, and scarcely any doubt can be formed of his having been instrumental in persuading the baron to present and publish, by way of appeal to the people, that strong memorial against peace, which made so great a noise, and so much displeased the queen. (*Hanover Papers*, 1711, vol. ii. p. 263. *Macpherson's Hist.* vol. ii. p. 504.)

A copy of the preliminaries having been delivered to the imperial ambassador, count Galas, he pub-

lished a translation of them in a newspaper. They soon became the object of many pamphlets, and public censure representing them as captious, insidious, insufficient, and the peace to be expected from them unsafe and dishonourable. Count Galas received a message from the secretary of state, "that he should come no more to court, his behaviour of late not being agreeable to her majesty; but that whatever should for the future be presented from his imperial majesty by the hands of another minister, should be very well received." At the same time the usual jealousy of the multitude was inflamed by the arts of the excluded party. Charles, the new emperor, wrote circular letters to the electors and the princes of the empire, exhorting them to persist in their engagements to the grand alliance. He likewise desired the states-general to join councils with him in persuading the queen to reject the proposals of France, and prosecute the war, or at least to negotiate on the foundation of the first preliminaries which had been signed by the marquis de Torcy. He wrote a letter to the same purpose to the queen, who received it with unaffected indifference. She could not wonder, indeed, that his imperial majesty should zealously contend for the continuance of a war, the expence of which she and the Dutch had hitherto almost wholly defrayed, though his share was to be more than ten to one in the profits, if there were any. On another hand, the duke of Marlborough, imprudently intriguing with the whig party, employed the remains of his influence to secure a majority in the house of lords against the preliminaries. The queen and her ministers, undismayed by these manœuvres, firmly persevered in their resolutions for peace. The parliament was prorogued till the 7th of December, in expectation of the Scottish peers, who could cast the balance in favour of the ministry.

The parliament met on the appointed day ; the queen told them in her speech, that notwithstanding the arts of those who delighted in war, the place and time were appointed for a congress ; that her allies, especially the states-general, had, by their ready concurrence, expressed their entire confidence in her, and that she had no reason to expect any less from her own subjects. In the address of the upper-house, after a violent debate, a clause was inserted representing to her majesty, that in the opinion of the house, no peace could be safe or honourable to Great Britain or Europe, if Spain and the West-Indies should be allotted to any branch of the Bourbon family. Several lords of the court party entered their protest against this clause, as there being no precedent for inserting a clause of advice in an address of thanks, and because they looked upon it as an invasion of the royal prerogative, in so sudden a manner to declare their opinion in a matter of such importance to the crown, as the making of peace and war. This clause was rejected in the house of commons by a majority of 232 against 106.

The duke of Hamilton, one of the sixteen peers for Scotland, having been created a peer of Great Britain, under the title of duke of Brandon, claimed his place in that quality in the house of peers. This claim was opposed, on pretence that the constitution might be endangered, by admitting into the upper-house a greater number of Scots peers than were agreed on by the act of union. The claim was rejected by a majority of fifty-seven against fifty-two. On this occasion nineteen peers entered a protest, as by this resolution the prerogatives of the crown, in granting patents of honour, with all the privileges depending thereon, were taken away. The Scottish peers, incensed at the resolution, addressed the queen with a representation, complaining of it as an

infringement of the union, and a mark of disgrace put upon the whole peerage of Scotland.

The bill against occasional conformity was revived in more moderate terms by the earl of Nottingham, and passed both houses, by the connivance of the whigs, upon the earl's promise, that if they would consent to this measure, he would bring over many friends to join them in matters of greater consequence.

The commons, with a view to support the ministry by humbling their enemies, ordered the commissioners for the public accounts to lay before them their proceedings. Their report, made on the 21st of December, contained a deposition, charging the duke of Marlborough with various peculations with regard to the contracts for bread and bread-waggons for the army in Flanders, and especially of receiving yearly from the contractors a present of five or six thousand pounds. The duke having heard, while he was beyond sea, that the commissioners had made that discovery, had written a letter to them, November 10th, wherein he owned the whole matter to be true, but pretended to have applied these sums to the procuring good intelligence; to which, next to the blessing of God and the bravery of the troops, their constant success was owing. This apology appeared the less satisfactory to the commons, that the duke's passion for money was known. The report of the commissioners was published, and followed by accusations of various kinds. As the late conduct of Marlborough did not entitle him to any indulgence from the queen, her majesty did not hesitate to declare in council, that an information being laid before the commons against the duke, she thought fit to dismiss him from all his employments, that the matter might take an impartial examination; and this de-

claration was notified to the duke, December 31st, by a letter under her majesty's own hand.

This measure not being sufficient to secure the ministry against the influence of the whigs, particularly in the house of lords, a sudden resolution was taken, to turn the majority in that house in favour of the court, by the creation of twelve new peers; an extraordinary, though not an illegal measure, which never was nor ever will be frequently recurred to, as it might in some circumstances endanger, more or less, either the constitution or the government, and perhaps both; while the mere apprehension of its being employed, must answer as effectually the same purpose, without any danger.

Ann. 1712.

Prince Eugene, so long and so eagerly expected by the whigs, arrived in England, notwithstanding all the endeavours and insinuations which lord Strafford, the English ambassador at the Hague, had been directed to employ, to keep him on the other side of the water. At the same time, all the captains of yachts and packet-boats were ordered not to admit him, unless he presented a passport from government, or a positive order from lord Strafford. The captain who embarked him was presented by the prince with a letter from lord Strafford, which, far from giving him any order, referred him, though in a diplomatic style, to those he himself had received, and it implied of course a prohibition; yet, as it left the captain to his own discretion, with a recommendation of shewing to the prince all the respect and consideration due to him, he elucidated with this sentence, that which he found ambiguous, and concluded, that complying with the prince's wishes, was the only way in his

power to shew him the respect and consideration he deserved. The queen, though very much displeased at his unexpected arrival, treated him with great civility. He delivered to her a letter from the emperor, and instructions respecting a new scheme for prosecuting the war. His errand was not agreeable to the ministers; but they were still more anxious about the real aim of his journey, which from good authority they suspected to be of a bold and dangerous nature. He intended, indeed, to manage among the discontented party averse to peace, such intrigues, as to pave the way to the elector of Hanover passing into England with an army, and being enabled by a revolution in his favour, to carry on the war to the last extremity against the house of Bourbon. But when he found that the commons supported the ministry, that a majority in their favour had been secured in the house of lords, and that the disgrace of Marlborough rendered him incapable of seconding his views, he resolved to spare no sort of violence for their accomplishment, and to consult on his measures chiefly the duke and baron de Bothmar, the Hanoverian ambassador, with whom he had every day private interviews. The former was of opinion, that should a prince of the electoral family appear in Great Britain under the cover of a manifesto, setting forth that the pretender was coming with a popish army, the mob might be deceived, and queen Anne, like her father, steal away to France; that the crown might then be settled by the whigs, and the war be carried on with redoubled vigour. Baron de Bothmar observed, that the experiment would be too dangerous, that a miscarriage would inevitably ruin the undertaking, load the family of Hanover with the public hatred, and exclude them from the succession to the crown. The duke did not insist, but suggested, that the bands of ruffians who infested

the streets by night, should be employed to raise disturbances and excite mobs; that should people become accustomed to these nocturnal alarms, there would be no difficulty in assassinating such persons as the party might wish to remove; and to throw the whole deed on those ruffians. Several other schemes were proposed; some for seizing the queen, some for seizing the ministry, and one for assassinating Oxford and Bolingbroke in their chairs. Prince Eugene wrote about this last to count Zinzendorf, then at the Hague, who wrote in answer, that such measures were extremely hazardous, and scarcely to be undertaken; but if this was resolved on, he advised prince Eugene to come over to Holland before it was executed. Among other schemes, one was, that Marlborough, by virtue of his power as general commander of the forces, should assemble 3000 men, at a fixed hour, and seize St. James's. There had been before an order under the privy seal sent him, not to act any more as general; but his commission being under the broad seal, could not be superseded but in the same form. The ministry, exactly informed of what was discussed in these meetings, took every precaution for the security of her majesty's person and their own; the commission of the duke was immediately superseded by a revocation under the broad seal. On the queen's birth-day the guards were doubled, the gates of St. James's were shut, several parties of horse were stationed in the neighbourhood, some troops were appointed to attend prince Eugene under a shew of defending him against the pressure of the mob, but in reality to watch his motions; and the queen, the better to cover her suspicion against the prince, presented him on that day with a handsome sword, enriched with diamonds of the value of 5 or 6000*l*. (*Stuart Papers*, 1712. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. ii. p. 283, &c. *Macpherson's Hist.*

vol. ii. p. 528 to 534. *Memoires de Torcy*, vol. ii. *passim*.)

During these secret intrigues and dangerous conspiracies, which threw such an odium and infamy upon the characters of two men, whose military exploits had resounded all over Europe, the ministry behaved with great prudence and moderation. The queen ordered the secretary of state to acquaint the commons that the conferences were already opened at Utrecht for the speedy re-establishment of general peace; and that to secure its conclusion by appearing provided for war, she had made all preparations for an early campaign, and requested the house to give the necessary dispatch to the supplies. She complained of the present licentiousness of the press, which was become too great to be restrained by the laws in force, and she recommended to the house to find a remedy adequate to the mischief. The answer of the commons was suitable to their usual obsequiousness to the views of the queen.

The report of the commissioners for public accounts afforded to the commons the means to get rid of Mr. Robert Walpole, one of their members, whose talents, activity, and zealous attachment to the whig interest had rendered him very troublesome in their house. They declared him guilty of a high breach of trust and notorious corruption, in receiving the sum of 500 guineas, together with a note for 500 more, on account of two contracts for foraging her majesty's troops; he was accordingly expelled the house, and committed to the tower. They came also to a resolution that the duke of Marlborough had been guilty of unwarrantable and illegal practices in taking money from the contractors, and for his own use two and a half per cent. from the pay of the foreign troops in Flanders. Their vote was laid by the whole house before her majesty, who ordered the attorney-general to pro-

secute the duke, and make him refund the public money. During the debates about the peace, or rather in opposition to it, M. de Torcy acquainted lord Oxford, that after the duke of Marlborough had hindered the peace in 1706, when it should have been made, he had treated with the French court to make them one, and was to have two millions of crowns for it. When M. de Torcy discovered this, the king of France allowed lord Oxford to make use of it to send the duke abroad, but insisted that his life should not be touched, and so it was promised. (*Stuart Papers*, 1712. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. ii. p. 283.)

The sum which the duke of Marlborough was to refund amounted to 30,000*l*. but either no prosecution was ever commenced against him, or it was carried on with such a slowness, that it never came to an issue. These circumstances answer to the bitter reproaches that have been made to queen Anne for her pretended ingratitude and extreme severity towards the duke of Marlborough.

Another affair of a higher importance was now taken into consideration by the house of commons. A treaty had been concluded in 1709 between Great Britain and the states-general, to settle a barrier in Flanders for the Dutch at the end of the war. Lisle, Tournay, Menin, Douay, and several other places on the Lys and the Scheldt, were guaranteed to the states, though almost all of them were by their situation an essential barrier to France. Therefore, this treaty, which was besides in some of its articles obviously disadvantageous to the English trade, could not but be an obstruction to the peace, which might ultimately defeat the design of the congress. While the commons were examining this treaty, as well as the instructions and correspondence that had passed upon the subject, the baron de Bothmar, with his usual imprudence,

making his master a party in favour of the treaty, threatened several members of the lower house with the resentment and vengeance of the elector, should they proceed to censure the persons concerned. Notwithstanding these injudicious, and even ridiculous menaces, the commons resolved that several articles of the treaty were destructive to the trade and interest of Great Britain; that lord Townshend had neither orders nor authority to conclude these pernicious articles; that therefore, he who negotiated and signed the treaty, was an enemy to the queen and kingdom. The states vainly interfered in a letter to the queen herself; the ministers having resolved to make peace, were determined to remove every obstacle that stood in the way. In the course of this business the commons were induced to examine the conduct of the allies, with regard to their furnishing their respective quotas for the war. This inquiry contributed the more to increase the great desire of the people for peace, as it plainly appeared that none of the confederates, except Great Britain, had fulfilled any one of their engagements.

The naturalization act of the seventh of queen Anne's reign, in favour of the protestant foreigners, is repealed February 9th.

The upper house adjourning from day to day the re-consideration of the duke of Hamilton's patent, recommended by the queen, the Scottish lords resolve to sit no more in an assembly that refused to acknowledge their rights. The whig party in the house, taking advantage of this secession, vote an address to the queen, representing their indignation at the dishonourable treatment of her majesty, by France, in proposing to acknowledge her title to the crown no sooner than after the peace being signed, and expressing their resentment at the terms offered by France, as well as a renewal of their promises to stand by her majesty with their lives and fortunes,

if she continues the war. This was the last parliamentary effort of the party against the conclusion of the peace, the necessity of which became more and more evident, by a representation of the commons to the queen, discovering the full extent of the hardships the allies had put on England in carrying on the war. The emperor's scheme for its continuation being laid before the house, prince Eugene, who had brought it, had the mortification to see that the house did not take the least notice of it. It was obvious, indeed, that by the continuation of the war, its primary and only object, the re-establishment of the balance of Europe could no longer be obtained; nay, that in case of a favourable issue for the confederates, that very balance should be effectually and completely destroyed. Prince Eugene, however, still prolonged his stay in England, and continued his intrigues with the whigs so far, that the queen thought, it was said, of sending him away by force; he prevented that disgrace by embarking March 17th.

The supplies, amounting to six millions, being granted by the commons, the treasurer formed the plan of a bill appointing commissioners to examine the value of all the grants made since the revolution. He intended to make a general resumption, but this measure was injurious to the interest of so many noblemen, that the bill, warmly opposed by them, was lost in the upper house.

During these transactions in the British parliament, the conferences at Utrecht engrossed the attention of all Europe. Robinson, bishop of Bristol, lord privy seal, and the earl of Strafford, plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, together with those of France and of the states-general, had met in form for the first time on the 18th of January. It was soon perceived that the fate of the treaty entirely depended on the queen of Great Britain. Her allies

defrayed in great measure from their expences by her subsidies, were naturally less inclined to peace than to take advantage of all possible means to prevent, or at least to retard it. Her majesty had foreseen and provided against these difficulties. Firmly resolved to free her subjects from the burden and hardships of an unprofitable war, and to restore tranquillity to Europe, she had also determined to procure reasonable terms of accommodation for her allies, without, however, continuing to lavish the blood and treasure of her people in supporting extravagant pretensions.

With these fair and honourable views, Anne took the lead of the negociation; and being happily seconded by the conspicuous talents of lord Oxford and lord Bolingbroke, she succeeded in bringing to a conclusion, in less than five months, the most difficult and important point of the treaty, that of preventing for ever, by all possible means, the union of the two crowns of France and Spain. Lewis XIV. seemed indeed so pleased, so fascinated with Anne's noble open manner of negotiating, that he readily complied with all her wishes, and even suggested himself the means he thought the best to secure their accomplishment.

While the conferences at Utrecht were slowly going on in the usual diplomatic forms, the private negociation between the two sovereigns was carried on with the utmost diligence and ability by viscount Bolingbroke and marquis de Torcy, their respective ministers, and was now reduced to this point; that king Philip should immediately make his choice, either to keep his right to the crown of France by renouncing that of Spain, or to preserve that of Spain by renouncing that of France. In the first case, the crown of Spain was to be ceded to the duke of Savoy, whose dominions, together with the kingdom of Sicily, were to be enjoyed by king Philip.

until he succeeded to the throne of France, and then Sicily only should be ceded to the house of Austria, and the other estates of the duke of Savoy considered in future as provinces of France. Louis, accepting the alternative, demanded that a suspension of arms between the armies now in the Netherlands should immediately take place. The queen answered, that though the principal point was agreed on by his majesty, nothing could be settled about it until the most Christian king's final resolution on the alternative proposed to him was known, and that a suspension of arms could not sooner be declared. In order to remove this objection, the marquis de Torcy wrote to lord Bolingbroke by the king's order, that his majesty did not hesitate to promise most positively that the treaty of peace should be built upon one or the other of the queen's propositions.

Anne, upon a mere promise, could not go so far as publicly to declare a general suspension of arms; but depending entirely on the good faith of Louis XIV. she immediately sent private orders to the duke of Ormond, who commanded her armies in the Netherlands, to avoid engaging in any siege, or hazarding a battle, till further orders, without owning, however, that he had received such orders, which might at present have an ill effect if it was publicly known. A few days, however, after the receiving of these orders, he was obliged to confess the fact, to excuse himself from executing a resolution of the council of war for his immediately attacking the enemy, or covering the siege of Quesnoy, which prince Eugene, who commanded the Dutch forces, had determined to undertake. This unexpected refusal raised great alarm and clamour among the allies, without giving the least uneasiness to the queen, whose resolution remained unalterable, notwithstanding the complaints of the plenipotentiaries

of the allies at Utrecht and of the foreign ministers in London.

In the mean time king Philip's final resolution was received by the queen, June 8th, with his formal declaration, that he preferred to retain Spain and the Indies, and to renounce by the peace, for himself and his descendants, his rights to the crown of France. As to the means and way of confirming and consolidating this resolution, together with those of securing its execution, the marquis de Torcy announced, that the king would readily acquiesce in all measures that the queen should think proper to adopt.

A few days after, having received this agreeable intelligence, the queen going to the house of peers, communicated the plan of peace to her parliament according to her promise. An address of thanks and approbation was immediately voted, drawn up and presented to the queen by the commons in a body. In the house of lords, the duke of Marlborough asserted, that the measures pursued for a year past, were directly contrary to her majesty's engagements with the allies, that they sullied the triumphs and glories of her reign, and would render the English name odious to all nations. This violent and improper attack was repelled as severely as it deserved by the earl of Strafford, and did not prevent the house from voting an address in which they thanked the queen for her extraordinary condescension in communicating the plan of peace to her parliament, and expressed an entire satisfaction of her conduct.

The queen's objection to a solemn declaration of suspension of arms could now no longer exist, and the French king earnestly requested it. The queen consented to it, but insisted, that on the day the suspension should take place, Dunkirk and the adjacent forts should be entered by her troops and re-

main in her majesty's hands until the states-general had given to his most christian majesty such an equivalent for the demolition of that place as might satisfy him. These particulars had been already settled by the French king's answer to the preliminary demands of her majesty, but the execution was to take place only after the conclusion of the treaty. This was, therefore, a new demand, to which, however, the king did not hesitate to acquiesce: "There is no resisting," said Torcy, in his letter to Bolingbroke, "a princess, who so resolutely declares her sentiments for the re-establishment of the general repose of Europe. I entreat you to consider, not as a British minister, but as one of another country, what a concession it is for France to give up Dunkirk to the English before the peace is settled, and without any other assurance than her Britannic majesty's word; the king is convinced of its inviolability, and his majesty gives a real and evident proof that such is his opinion."

The king gave accordingly all necessary orders for the delivery of Dunkirk to the English on the same day that the suspension of arms should take place in the Netherlands. But the execution of these orders was prevented by an unforeseen obstacle, which occurred on the day of the duke of Ormond's declaration to his army of a cessation of arms between France and Great Britain. Not only the generals of all the allied powers declined to adhere to the suspension, but the commanders of the auxiliary forces, which made a part of the English army, whether in the pay of the queen alone, or of her and the states, refused to join the English troops, and to follow their general, who was no less perplexed than the French commander at Dunkirk, respecting the line of conduct which they should respectively follow,

The queen was informed of these circumstances both by the duke of Ormond and by a letter of the marquis de Torcy to lord Bolingbroke, who was ordered by her majesty to return an answer, the substance of which follows :

“ June 20th, 1712.

“ Her majesty, sir, orders me to
 “ inform you, that she sees with extreme concern
 “ the enemies to the peace still find means to retard
 “ it. . . . but, as her majesty has firmly and unalter-
 “ ably resolved never to yield to obstacles that may
 “ be thrown in her way, I have this moment, by
 “ the queen’s command, spoken to all the ministers
 “ now here, of the princes, whose troops are either
 “ in the pay of her majesty entirely, or in her pay
 “ conjointly with that of the states. I have told
 “ them, in the queen’s name, that she will look
 “ upon the conduct of their commanders at this
 “ crisis, as a declaration of the princes, their mas-
 “ ters, either for or against her. . . . That her majes-
 “ ty could not be persuaded that those generals
 “ should hesitate a moment to obey the orders of
 “ the duke of Ormond; but I declared to them,
 “ that in case they did so, her majesty would no
 “ longer provide pay for their troops. . . . In case
 “ some of the troops persist in remaining with the
 “ army of prince Eugene, the duke of Ormond is
 “ ordered to withdraw with the English forces and
 “ all such as may be willing to march with him;
 “ . . . and to declare that the queen will no longer
 “ act against France nor pay those who do so; and
 “ that her majesty, who, hitherto has kept upon
 “ terms with her allies, being driven by them to
 “ such extremities, will think herself justified be-
 “ fore God and man to continue the negociation
 “ either at Utrecht or any where else, whether
 “ they concur or not. Thus, sir, you may depend,

“ and I am commanded to promise in the queen’s
 “ name, that if the king places the town, citadel,
 “ and forts of Dunkirk into her majesty’s keep-
 “ ing, though all the foreign troops, or a part of
 “ them refuse to obey the order of the duke of
 “ Ormond. . . . her majesty will no longer hesitate
 “ to conclude her own peace, leaving for the other
 “ powers a term, during which they may submit
 “ to the conditions of a plan, which the queen will
 “ agree upon with his most christian majesty. . . . In
 “ a word, Great Britain withdraws herself from
 “ the theatre of war, leaving behind her only a
 “ few powers little able to make head against
 “ France, and the peace between these two king-
 “ doms may be concluded in a very few weeks.
 “ These are, sir, the propositions which the queen
 “ orders me to make to you. . . . If the king accepts
 “ them, her majesty thinks it proper for the in-
 “ terest of both nations to settle immediately a
 “ general suspension, as well by sea as by land, be-
 “ tween Great Britain and France, to follow that
 “ agreed upon in the Netherlands.” (*Boling-
 broke’s Letters and Correspondence*, vol. iv. page
 400.)

The messenger who carried that letter, was im-
 mediately sent back with the king’s general con-
 sent to the queen’s demand, such as explained in
 lord Bolingbroke’s letter, and they were respective-
 ly brought to execution without any further de-
 lay, by their majesties dispatching their ultimate
 commands to the plenipotentiaries not to lose a
 moment in concluding the agreement for a general
 suspension of arms as well by sea as by land, and
 even the treaty of peace between Great Britain and
 France.

It appears from some of the Stuart Papers, 1712,
 (*Macpherson’s Original Papers*, vol. ii. p. 258,)

and from the minute of Mr. Mesnager's negociation, (*page 276 and passim,*) that at this period, the queen, extremely displeased at the conduct of the elector of Hanover, and of his minister, baron de Bothmar, secretly entered with a degree of warmth into her brother's cause. She was the more inclined to it, as she knew the important support which the jacobites, at his instigation, had given to her measures, particularly in the upper house, where all the efforts of the treasurer would have been of no avail to recall the Scottish peers to their duty in parliament, had they not been prevailed upon to do so, by a rescript they timely received from the court of St. Germain. Mesnager having signed the articles of a separate peace between France and Great Britain, attempted, according to his instructions to render some service to the pretender, and in a conversation with Bolingbroke, proposed a declaration to be made by her majesty in a secret article in favour of her brother. Bolingbroke was afraid that the queen would not sign such a declaration, but he thought she would have no objection to give it by word of mouth. The minister mentioned this proposal to the queen, and with her consent, introduced Mesnager to Mrs. Masham, as he himself did not choose to meddle further in the affair.

Two points were agreed upon between Mr. Mesnager and Mrs. Masham, "1st, that for the satisfaction of the people at home, and the allies abroad, the king of France should be required in the queen's name to abandon her brother and his interest, on pretence of adhering to the succession as it was now established. 2nd, that nevertheless, this seeming to abandon the said interests was to be so understood, that the king should not be obliged, in case of her majesty's decease, not to use his endeavours for the placing

“ the said prince on his father’s throne, to which
“ he had an undoubted right.” Mrs. Masham told
him, “ that it would be an inexpressible satisfaction
“ to her majesty if it could be possible with safety
“ to the religion and liberties of her subjects, to
“ have her brother restored to his right, at least
“ after her decease, if it could not be done before ;
“ that the necessity of entering into the strongest
“ engagement possible to confirm the succession in
“ the house of Hanover, was the greatest of all her
“ majesty’s aversions ; but that some reserve might
“ surely be made to leave room for justice to take
“ place in time to come.”

Mesnager, upon his arrival at Utrecht, found that the British ministers had not received the private instructions which Mrs. Masham had given him reason to expect would be sent to them ; he afterwards discovered that the agents of the court of St. Germain had made the concerns of the pretender the subject of a private negotiation with the ministry in England ; and he wholly ascribes the miscarriage of the business to the bad choice of those agents as well as to the impatience and jealousy of the court of St. Germain.

In the mean time, prince Eugene having received a reinforcement of Germans, that increased the army to the number of 122,000 men, sat down before Quesnoy, which surrendered July 4th after a weak defence. Two days after he invested Landrecy. On the 17th of July the duke of Ormond having published the suspension of arms, parted from the army with the English troops under his command, marched towards Ghent and Bruges, and took possession of these two towns. Thus, by commanding the navigation of the Lys and Scheldt, he became the umpire of the operations between the contending armies. However, prince Eugene opened the trenches before Landrecy, placed a

strong body of his troops at Denain to protect the passage of his convoys, and fortified his own camp so as to have no insult to apprehend. But the *mareschal de Villars* had the address to make him believe that he intended to attack his camp, which induced him to weaken the body of troops commanded by the earl of *Albermarle* at Denain. The *mareschal* having made a feint of advancing towards his right, turned suddenly to the left, marched up to the camp of the earl of *Albermarle*, entered the entrenchments, cut those who resisted to pieces, and forced the rest to fly. Two thousand five hundred of the enemy were killed or drowned, about the same number were taken prisoners, and many officers of great distinction were either killed, or taken, or lost in the *Scheldt*. This victory, which decided the fate of the war, was rapidly followed by many important advantages. *Marchiennes*, the depot of all the magazines of the confederates, was taken in three days. Prince *Eugene*, far from attempting to annoy the enemy, was not able to defend himself. He raised the siege of *Landrecy*; *Douay*, *Quesnoi*, and *Bouchain* were successively taken in his sight. Thus ended in misfortune and disgrace that famous war, hitherto marked by a rapid series of the most signal victories obtained by the allies, and which might have been crowned by the most honourable peace, had not the confederates, intoxicated by prosperity, rejected as imprudently as ungenerously, the advantageous terms repeatedly offered to them by *Lewis XIV.*

A few days after the taking of *Bouchain*, both armies went into winter-quarters; all the remarkable events of this campaign were confined to those which occurred in *Flanders*.

Though queen *Anne* and *Lewis XIV.* were equally anxious for peace, the private negotiation carried on between their majesties, was protracted from

day to day by the queen's peremptorily insisting on several demands in favour of the duke of Savoy, and Louis, on several others in favour of the elector of Bavaria. The possession of Sicily, to be vested either on the duke or on the elector, was the principal object of debate. In order to bring these differences to a more speedy conciliation, the queen dispatched lord Bolingbroke with full powers, though tacked with the indispensable condition of obtaining Sicily for the duke of Savoy. As soon as Bolingbroke arrived at Paris, he entered into conferences with the marquis de Torcy on the object of his message. These two ministers honoured with the full confidence and powers of their respective sovereigns, happening to have the same earnestness for the conclusion of peace, soon agreed on the principal points, and on referring the rest to the general congress at Utrecht, where the British plenipotentiaries continued to press the allies to join in the armistice. But they were deaf to the proposal, and concerted measures for a vigorous prosecution of the war. The elector of Hanover himself, when the queen's ambassador endeavoured to persuade him that it would be for his interest to co-operate with her majesty, firmly persevered in the contrary resolution. "Whenever it shall please God," said he, "to call me to the throne of Britain, I hope to act as becomes me for the advantage of my people; in the mean time speak to me as to a German prince, and a prince of the empire."

Lord Bolingbroke and the marquis de Torcy, besides adjusting in their conference the principal interests of the duke of Savoy and the elector of Bavaria, settled, according to the queen's direction, the time and manner of the renunciations to be made by the king of Spain and by all the French princes, agreed to a treaty for a suspension of arms

between Great Britain and France, both by sea and land, for the space of four months, and that the court of Great Britain should pay the annual sum of 60,000*l.* by way of dower to the late king James's queen; it was also agreed that the chevalier de St. George (the pretender) should retire out of France.

On the 24th of August, the suspension of arms was proclaimed at Paris with the same ceremonies usually observed at the proclamation of peace; and four days after the same proclamation was published in England both by itself and in the London Gazette.

King Philip signs a solemn renunciation to all pretensions which either himself or his issue might have to the crown of France, and his renunciation is approved and confirmed by the Cortes. The like renunciation is made by the princes of France to the crown of Spain. The chief foundation of the war and the motive of the grand alliance being thus removed, the queen appointed the duke of Hamilton her ambassador to France; but a private quarrel arising at that time between him and lord Mohun, they met in Hyde Park with their seconds, and made such violent and desperate passes at each other that both were killed on the spot. As the duke was not only a tory but a professed jacobite, this unfortunate duel was charged on the whole whig party, suggesting, that having tried all other methods in vain, they returned to their expedient of violence and murder. The duke of Marlborough, hearing himself accused of countenancing those party mischiefs, and seeing his enemies grow every day more and more implacable, retired with his duchess to the continent. He had already formed that project a few weeks before, at the death of his intimate friend lord Godolphin, a minister of great abilities and integrity, who had served in consider-

able employments under four princes of very different tempers, and had constantly discovered a true sense of the nation's welfare, and of the proper means of promoting it. As to the duke he renewed his professions to the elector of Hanover ; advised him to have a spy at the pretender's court to observe his motions, offered for fifty louis-d'ors a month to procure a proper person for that important service, and took a part of this function to himself. (*Hanover Papers*, 1713. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. ii. p. 585.)

The duke of Shrewsbury succeeded the duke of Hamilton in the embassy to France, and that court sent the duke d'Aumont to London in the same quality.

The king of Portugal, who had resisted all the remonstrances of England respecting the suspension of arms, was soon made very sensible of the advantages of that measure when he saw his kingdom invaded by a Spanish army of 20,000 men laying siege before Campo Major. The Portuguese minister at Utrecht was immediately ordered to sign the suspension, and excused this step to the allies as the obvious effect of necessity.

The Dutch began now to waver in their warlike resolutions. The first transports of their resentment having subsided, they plainly perceived that the continuation of the war would entail upon them a burthen which they could not bear, especially since the duke of Savoy and the king of Portugal had deserted the alliance. The plenipotentiaries of the four associated circles of Germany, presented a remonstrance to the British ministers at Utrecht, imploring the queen's interposition in their favour, that they might not be left in the miserable condition to which they had been reduced by former treaties. Even the emperor's plenipotentiaries began to talk in more moderate terms, and no longer

insisted on a cession of the Spanish monarchy to the house of Austria. Philip's ministers, together with those of Bavaria and Cologne, whom the other plenipotentiaries had hitherto refused to acknowledge, were admitted to the congress, and now the plenipotentiaries of Britain acted as mediators for the rest of the allies.

Ann. 1713.

The perseverance and steady conduct of the British ministry overcame the reluctance of the allies, the emperor only excepted. A new barrier-treaty, which the earl of Strafford was ordered to settle with the states-general, induced them to accede to the plan of pacification; and the difficulties that arose in adjusting the treaty of commerce, and the limits of the countries possessed by Great Britain and France in North America, being finally settled, the peace was signed on the 11th of April by the plenipotentiaries of France, Great Britain, Portugal, Savoy, Holland, and Prussia. The ministers of Great Britain agreed with those of France, that the emperor should have time till the 1st of June ensuing, to consider whether he would or would not accept the terms which concerned his imperial majesty; during which interval, however, France would not grant a suspension of arms.

The queen opens the session of parliament, and announces in her speech, that peace is signed, that the ratifications of the treaty will be exchanged in a few days. She likewise informs them, that as great progress has been made in reducing the public expences as the circumstances would admit, leaving entirely to her parliament to determine what force may be necessary for securing commerce by sea, and for guards and garrisons. "Make yourselves safe," said she, "and I shall be satis-

* fied. Next to the protection of the Divine Providence, I depend upon the loyalty and affection of my people. I want no other guarantee." A warm address of thanks and congratulation is voted in both houses and presented to her majesty, and the peace is proclaimed with the usual ceremonies, to the inexpressible joy of the nation in general.

About this time most of the ministers at Utrecht received by the post a printed protestation of the pretender, in which he asserted his undoubted right to the crown of Great Britain, and solemnly protested against any thing that might be done towards the diminution of it. But no manner of public notice was taken of this protestation.

The queen having received the ratification of the treaties of peace and commerce, copies of them were presented to the house. Weighty objections were made to the 8th and 9th articles of the treaty of commerce, importing that Great Britain and France should mutually enjoy all the privileges in trading with each other, that either granted to the most favoured nation, and that no higher customs should be exacted from the commodities of France than those that were drawn from the same productions of any other country. Some members observed, that should the duties upon French wines be reduced to an equality with those laid upon the wines of Portugal, the difference of freight was so great, that the French wines would be found the cheapest, and as they were more agreeable to the taste, there would be no market for Portuguese wine in England; that should this be the case, the English would lose their trade with Portugal, the most advantageous which they now carried on, as it returned a yearly balance of 600,000*l.* in gold. It was urged likewise, that the English having learned to make silk stuffs, paper, and all manner of toys, formerly imported from France, a vast sum

was annually saved to the nation, and an infinite number of artificers employed at home; but that these people would now be reduced to beggary, and that money lost again to the kingdom should these articles be imported from France under ordinary duties, as labour was much cheaper in France than in England, &c. &c. After a violent debate, the house resolved that a bill should be brought in to make good these two articles of the treaty, as all the trading part of the nation exclaimed against them; but when the bill was brought in, it was negatived after a long debate, by a majority of 194 against 185.

As to the treaty of peace, no motion was made either to approve or disapprove it, than that for an address to thank her majesty "for the great care she had taken for the security and honour of her kingdoms in the treaty of peace; and also for what she had done in the treaty of commerce, by laying so good a foundation for the interests of her people in trade, humbly desiring her majesty to appoint commissioners to treat with commissioners on the part of France, for adjusting such matters as should be necessary to be settled in the said treaty, that it might be explained and perfected for the good and welfare of her people." This bill was carried by a majority of 156 voices against 72; only one of the members in this debate reflected on the late ministry for having neglected to make a more advantageous peace when it was in their power. But as the peace of Utrecht has been long since a matter of great controversy, and even of severe reproaches against queen Anne and her ministry, such an important question cannot pass unnoticed in any history of her reign; and the time is now come when it may be elucidated, perhaps more impartially than ever; as political opinions on this subject are no

longer biassed by the violent passions of the whigs and tories of that period, and that blind animosity which generally prevailed against the most magnified ambition of the house of Bourbon has not only subsided, but has been succeeded, particularly in England, by the most generous sympathy for the unparalleled misfortunes of that august family.

Those who censured the peace of Utrecht, maintained, that had queen Anne continued the war one or two years longer, she was sure of annihilating for ever the power of France, and would have secured by that means an everlasting peace to England; or had she been absolutely resolved to make a peace, she should have made it upon terms as advantageous at least as those proposed by Lewis XIV. in 1709, since the war having continued two years longer, must have exhausted his last resources.

The first of these objections, urged by the whigs at that time, had been strenuously supported by the duke of Marlborough. But the queen, already deluded during two years with her allies, by those presumptuous ideas of reducing France in one or two campaigns to the lowest degree of insignificance and humiliation, and seeing that these two campaigns had been rather more advantageous to Lewis XIV. than any other from the beginning of this grand contest, is her majesty to be blamed for having preferred peace to the risks of another campaign, and to the necessity of considerably increasing the burden, already immense, of the taxes, for a war, the continuation of which, after the death of the emperor Joseph, on the 17th of April 1711, was become a flagrant inconsistency, no less absurd than bloody; as instead of tending to the attainment of the principal object of the grand alliance, the re-establishment of the balance of Europe, the

necessary consequence of the allies continuing the war with success, was the final destruction of that very balance by the union of the imperial and Spanish crowns on the head of the emperor Charles, an union the more irrevocable, that the only power adequate to oppose it was to be annihilated?

As to obtaining such advantageous terms as those that had been offered in 1709, it is probable, that as far as the change of circumstances could allow it, none of the allies would have had reason to complain had they joined in her majesty's measures; but by obstinately opposing her views, they made it impossible for her to attend to their interests as she did to her own. The consequence was, that the terms she obtained were more advantageous to England than those proposed in 1709 could ever have been. She secured in some measure to Great Britain, the dominion of the Mediterranean, by the acquisition of Gibraltar and Minorca, which she could not have pretended to nor even have accepted with propriety in 1709, when she was fighting the battles of Charles III. in support of his pretensions to the whole succession of Spain. In the mean time she obliged the French king to acknowledge her own title, and the protestant succession, to abandon the pretender's cause, and even expel him from France; she strengthened her limits and extended her dominions in America; she forced France to cede to England Hudson's Bay and St. Christopher, to give up all pretensions to Newfoundland, except the faculty of drying fish on a limited part of its shores; she reduced Lewis XIV. to the humiliation of destroying at his own expence, the fortifications and harbour of Dunkirk.

With regard to the confederates, the emperor was to have the duchy of Milan, the kingdom of Naples and the Spanish Netherlands. The duke of Savoy was eventually to succeed to the crown of Spain,

in default of Philip V. and his male issue; Sicily was also to be given him with the title of king, and Sardinia, with the same title to the elector of Bavaria. The states were to deliver up Lisle and the little places about it; and besides the other places already in their possession, they were to have Namur, Charleroy, Luxembourg, Ypres, and Nieuport. The king of Prussia was to have the Upper Guelder in lieu of Orange, and his newly-assumed title of king acknowledged. The king of Portugal having contributed but a little in carrying on the war, had little to demand, and that was granted. But, above all, the balance of Europe, that important cause of all Europe rising in arms against France, was secured as much as it could be by the solemn renunciations of the king of Spain to the crown of France, and of the French princes to the crown of Spain. Now, if we consider that queen Anne become the sole arbitress of the fate of Europe, obtained, or rather dictated those concessions to Lewis XIV. no longer humbled by recent defeats, but gloriously reconciled with victory at Denain, it seems difficult not to allow, that she most honourably concluded the most advantageous peace that England had ever made. It is no less obvious, that had the more advantageous terms proposed in 1709 been accepted at that time as the basis of a general treaty, a new confederacy and a much more disadvantageous war must unavoidably have taken place, to compel Charles III. invested by this very treaty with the crown of Spain, and by his own right with the imperial crown, to resign one of them. Let then England no longer regret the treaty that might have been made in 1709, nor ever consider the power of France, under a regular government, as in the least obnoxious to the security of Great Britain, who by her own situation, and owing to the immense increase of her power, riches, com-

merce and industry, will never be surer of continuing in that flourishing state, but by fostering in a great measure the prosperity of her neighbours, as obviously conducive to her own, and even necessary to maintain it.

The whigs, with a view of influencing the approaching elections against their antagonists, were at great pains to inform the public that the protestant succession was in great danger from the queen and her servants, and that the courts of London and Hanover were upon the very worst terms. Though this was a notorious fact, lord Oxford, sensible of the importance of removing a suspicion of this kind, resolved to induce the queen to assure her parliament in her speech from the throne, that the utmost harmony subsisted between her and the presumptive heirs of the crown. Her majesty, however, either from a returning affection for her brother; or disgusted with the intrigues of the elector's agents in London, refused for some time to make any mention of the house of Hanover; and the lord treasurer could not obtain the point but by applying to her prudence, and alarming her fears on the safety of her government, and perhaps of her person. It was the opinion of Marlborough, and of all the elector's friends in England, that the electoral prince should come over, under the pretext of thanking the queen for the affection she had expressed in her speech towards the elector's family; but he was dissuaded from this measure by his council at Hanover, who apprehended that if the prince came over without the queen's permission, he might be sent back with disgrace. (*Hanover Papers, May 16th and 26th, 1713. Macpherson's Original Papers, vol. ii. pp. 494, 495.*)

The duke, to whom the elector had granted at that period two and a half per cent. on the pay of his troops, and a commission to act in case of

the queen's death, seemed to be more sincerely attached to the elector; or at least *always ready*, as he said, to hazard his fortune and his life for his highness's service. (*Ibid.* p. 487, *Marlborough's Letter to the Elector, April 11th, 1713.*)

The delay allowed to the emperor for adhering to the treaty being past, the war continues on the Rhine. The mareschal de Villars takes without resistance the towns of Worms, Spire, Keirserlauter, &c. &c. The mareschal de Bezons besieges Landau, June 21st, takes possession of it August 20th; crosses the Rhine, beats general Vaubonne in his entrenchments, September 20th, and lays siege before Fribourg.

During this interval, the parliamentary business went on, not as quietly, however, as it was expected from the satisfaction which the nation, happily restored to the blessings of peace, had generally manifested; but it had not softened the animosity of the whigs against the ministry, particularly against lord Oxford, and they did not miss an opportunity of giving vent to it. The commons, in renewing the duty on malt, having extended it to Scotland, the members for that part of the kingdom unanimously opposed the measure as contrary to an express article of the union of the kingdoms. Their arguments, strenuously supported by the whigs, made a great impression in the house; the bill, however, obtained the majority. The Scottish members in both houses, highly offended at it, met at a tavern, and appointed two lords and two commoners to wait upon the queen in their names, and request her permission for bringing in a bill for the dissolution of the union. Though her majesty expressed the greatest uneasiness at this address, they resolved at the instigation of the duke of Argyle, a declared enemy to lord Oxford, to proceed in their intended motion. It was brought accordingly in

the house of lords on the 1st of June; but the violence of Argyle against the lord treasurer was ultimately serviceable to that minister, and when the question for dissolving the union was put, it was carried in the negative by a majority of four voices only, a circumstance which preserved the kingdom from confusion. Had the motion been carried in the affirmative, another was ready for sending the treasurer to the tower. The Scots, disappointed by their want of success, and incensed against the speech of Argyle, in which he had most unadvisedly mentioned the pretender with the greatest contempt, fell again into the views of the court.

The queen signifies in a message to the house of commons, that her civil list is burthened with debts, incurred by a part of the revenue, designed for it, being applied to several extraordinary expences amounting to above 500,000*l*. and this sum is immediately granted. In the mean time, addresses are voted by both houses, concerning the chevalier de St. George, who had repaired to Lorraine, and desiring her majesty that she would press the duke of that name, and all the princes in amity with her, to exclude the pretender from their dominions. On this debate, it was asked in the upper house, where would they have the pretender reside, since all the powers in Europe were in amity with her majesty? To this the earl of Peterborough answered, that "Since he began his studies in Paris, the fittest place for him to improve himself was Rome." The queen answered that she would repeat her instances according to their desire, adding, that if they could cure their animosities and divisions at home it would be the most effectual method of securing the protestant succession; and in her speech at the end of the session, July 16th, there was not one word of the pretender, nor of the protestant succession.

The parliament being soon after dissolved according to the triennial act, both parties prepared their exertions for the approaching elections. The whigs from the beginning of the year, had continued their intrigues to persuade the prince electoral to come over to England; teased with their importunities, he had agreed to send his brother, duke Ernest; but they insisted on his coming in person, and he had absolutely declined to comply with their demand. They had also vainly harassed him with demands of pensions for poor lords, and money to pay political writers, spies, &c. But the composition of a new parliament was so important to manage in favour of the protestant succession, at a juncture, when it was so much endangered both by the known dispositions of the queen and by the declining state of her health, that the whigs expected to find the elector heartily disposed to enable them by large sums of money to secure a majority in the elections, and to return men of constitutional and whiggish principles to the ensuing parliament. They accordingly asked 100,000*l*. The magnitude of the sum left no room for hesitation in rejecting their demand. They insisted again, and condescended to reduce it to 50,000*l*.; but the elector plainly told them that he could not spare the money. They applied to his servants and friends, but without any other effect than throwing his highness into a kind of despair, and even indifference about a throne, which was represented so difficult to ascend. (*Hanover Papers, passim.*)

In the mean time intrigues and dissensions existed in the cabinet. Bolingbroke yielding to his ambition, had long fixed his eyes upon the power and credit of lord Oxford, whom he despised, and thwarted all his measures. Supported by lady Masham, he insinuated himself into the favour of the queen, by entering without hesitation into all her prejudices.

The enmity between these two ministers was no longer unknown to the public, and writers employed by government, were busy in preparing the nation for an approaching change. This division was greatly fomented by the uninterrupted connexion between Bolingbroke and the duke of Marlborough, who entertained the most violent animosity against the earl of Oxford. The queen, subject to frequent illnesses, began to apprehend that her end was fast approaching, and from motives of religion became very anxious for the eventual succession of her brother to the throne. Her solemn promises to her father, the letter he had written to her in his last illness, her having been by her desertion the obvious cause of his ruin, were always present to her mind. She deemed the death of her children a signal punishment inflicted by Providence for her own injustice to a parent.

Bolingbroke, who had long watched the emotions of her mind, endeavoured to turn them to his advantage by approving and encouraging her views. He thus gradually succeeded in supplanting the influence of the lord treasurer. To humble his rival was gratifying to his ambition, but to ruin him entirely in such precarious circumstances, would have been inconsistent with common prudence; his scheme was, therefore, to postpone that blow until he could strike it with security, and he thought that nothing could better answer that purpose than strengthening himself with the return of the duke of Marlborough, whom he was sure to find disposed to join with any party who might contribute to the fall of his enemy. He was not deceived in this conjecture. The duke, tired of his long insignificance, and expecting much from the intrigues of Bolingbroke, indulged himself in the hopes of his speedy return, of regaining his former power and of governing Anne by yielding to her prejudices.

Under a certainty that she was attached to her brother's interest, he secretly endeavoured to gain the confidence of the pretender's adherents abroad. He wrote to the duchess of Berwick, and even to the late king James's queen. He dispatched one of his retainers to France, and empowered him to make the most solemn protestations of his attachment to the chevalier de St. George, assuring him with an oath that he would rather cut off his own right hand, than oppose his views to the throne; that provided he himself might be rendered secure, he would not hesitate a moment to use all his credit both privately and publicly for his service. He added, that he instructed the duke of Berwick more largely on the subject. (*Stuart Papers*, 16th of October, 1713. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. ii. p. 441.)

The dangerous intrigues of the duke in the preceding year had made such a deep impression on the queen's mind, that she was even terrified at the very mention of his name; and though she could not legally continue his exile, she resolved never to give her consent to his return. (*Stuart Papers*, 28th of October, 1713. *Macpherson*, vol. ii. p. 445.)

Marlborough, finding that the queen was obdurate, and that the pretender himself treated his proposals with caution, and even distrust, he fell back with vehemence into his former protestations to the house of Hanover, corresponded with that family, loudly accused the ministry of incurable jacobitism, and even involved his friend Bolingbroke in the general accusation. (*Hanover Papers*, duke of Marlborough's Letter, November the 30th, 1713, p. 515.)

The whigs again urged the elector to invade the kingdom, and demanded with the most vehement entreaties, 2000*l.* to carry the elections for the common council of London. "Should we fail," they said, "to engage the elector to agree to any of our

“proposals, we must in prudence provide for ourselves, and yield to the times.” (*Ibid. December 16th, 1713, p. 520.*)

It was insinuated, that the elector might be induced to borrow 20,000*l.* from his friends in Britain, to be laid out on the poor lords and the common-council of London during the three years that the parliament was to sit. Marlborough and Cadogan undertook to furnish the money on the elector's obligation, provided the interest of five per cent. should be regularly paid. His highness, however, declined to give any obligation either for the principal or interest, and signified to his agents, that his friends should advance the money, as they might be certain of being reimbursed as soon as his highness or the electress, his mother, should come to the throne. (*Ibid. December 30th, 1713, and March 20th, 1714, pp. 521, 578.*) These particulars, so painful to relate, and whose authenticity cannot be questioned, show, that the great duke of Marlborough, though overloaded with the laurels of the most glorious victories, was far, very far from being a man of upright principles and morality.

During these secret intrigues of party, the tories had succeeded in managing the elections, so as to retain the majority in the house of commons, and even in the upper house, by means of the sixteen peers elected in Scotland; but the meeting of the new parliament was delayed by repeated prorogations, owing partly to the contentions of ministers, and partly to the indisposition of the queen, who had been seized at Windsor with a dangerous inflammatory fever.

At that time the duke of Shrewsbury, lord lieutenant of Ireland, assembled the parliament of that kingdom, and found the two houses more at variance than ever on the opposite principles of whigs and tories. The commons ordered a bill to be

brought in to attain the pretender and all his adherents. They agreed upon an address to the queen to remove the chancellor, whom they accused of countenancing the tories of that kingdom. They were preparing several other complaints of the same kind, when the duke of Shrewsbury received orders to prorogue the parliament.

On the continent, the emperor seeing that his forces commanded by prince Eugene, were so overpowered by the French army under mareschal de Villars, that he could not prevent the reduction of the important fortresses of Landau and Fribourg, resolved at last that conferences for peace should take place at the castle of Rastadt, between prince Eugene and mareschal de Villars ; but all the articles between the courts of Vienna and Versailles were not settled before the end of February, and the treaty was signed on the 3rd day of March.

Ann. 1714.

The new parliament was opened by commission, February 16th. A fortnight after, the ratifications exchanged of the treaty of commerce between Spain and Great Britain were received, and this new treaty was published in London, March 1st. The next day the queen, hardly recovered from her last illness, was carried in a sedan chair to the house of lords, and addressed both houses with a speech, informing them that she had obtained an honourable and advantageous peace for her own people and for the greatest part of her allies ; and hoped her interposition might prove effectual to complete the settlement of Europe. She observed, that some persons had been so malicious as to insinuate, that the protestant succession in the house of Hanover was in danger under her government ; but that those who endeavoured to distract the minds of men with imaginary dangers, could only mean to disturb the

public tranquillity; that, after all she had done to secure the religion and liberties of her people, she could not mention such proceedings without some degree of warmth, and she hoped her parliament would agree with her that attempts to weaken her authority, or to render the possession of the crown uneasy to her, could never be proper means to strengthen the protestant succession.

Both houses, as well as the convocation, voted affectionate addresses to her majesty; still, however, the ill-humour of party subsisted, and was daily irritated by new pamphlets and libels, the prosecution of which was not the least business of this session, particularly respecting two pamphlets, the *Englishman* and the *Crisis*, written against the ministers by Mr. Steele, a member of the house of commons. After a very warm debate, in which Steele was very ably supported by Mr. Robert Walpole, his pamphlets were declared scandalous and seditious libels, and the author was expelled the house. The commons having readily voted a supply, proceeded on several resolutions about qualifying the members to serve in parliament, and ordered a bill to be brought in for securing the freedom of parliaments, by limiting the number of civil and military officers in the house of commons, which was perfected towards the end of March. On the other hand, the lords, induced by the general outcry on the dangers of the protestant succession, to take into consideration the state of the nation, voted several addresses to that effect, and one among the rest, desiring they might know what steps had been taken for removing the pretender from Lorraine. The lord treasurer, now strongly suspected of jacobitism, moved for leave to bring in a bill for the further security of the protestant succession, by making it high treason to bring any foreign troops into the kingdom, which at first very much puzzled

his antagonists, one of whom represented, however, that such a bill might be turned against the very guarantees of the protestant succession. Lord Bolingbroke replied, that this motion of his colleague alluded only to such troops as might be brought into the kingdom by the pretender or his adherents.

These two ministers, though rivals for the queen's favour, were, however, united in their public measures, on account of their common fears and interests. They were no strangers to the designs of the whigs; they knew that the elector had been long solicited to undertake an invasion; that the states-general began to make preparations for aiding effectually the elector in his views on the British throne; that the whigs at home were prepared to second the projected invasion from abroad; that measures were concerted by a society called the kit-cat-club, to seize the tower, to declare for the family of Hanover, to secure the persons of such as were suspected of favouring the pretender, and the treasurer being in the number, had awkwardly chosen this preposterous motion as a kind of hint to the whigs that he was not unacquainted with their schemes. (*Hanover Papers, March and April, 1714, passim, ibid.*) More effectual measures were taken against them on this occasion. The duke of Argyle, the earl of Stair, and many others of the whig party were removed from the military and civil employments which they had hitherto retained.

Disappointed in their public conduct, the whigs had recourse to private measures, and succeeded in gaining over such tories as were discontented with the ministry, or apprehensive that their fall would soon follow their dissension. Encouraged by this unexpected defection, the party introduced in the house of lords a warm debate on the question, whether the protestant succession was in danger? But in a division, the negative prevailed by twelve votes, 76

against 64 ; and in the house of commons it was carried by a majority of 256 against 208. With respect to the pretender, a motion was made that an address be presented to the queen, that she would renew her instances for the speedy removing of the chevalier de St. George out of Lorraine, and that she would in conjunction with the states-general enter into the guaranty of the protestant succession in the house of Hanover, and also with such other princes as she should think proper. It was proposed as an addition to the address, that the queen might be desired to issue a proclamation, promising a reward to any person who should apprehend the pretender dead or alive. This barbarous addition was rejected, but the address was voted unanimously.

The queen, extremely displeased at this address, returned such a cold and evasive answer to it as to revive the hopes of the jacobites, and increase the alarms of the whigs in the same proportion. The lords of that party held immediately a consultation, to which baron Schutz, envoy from the elector of Hanover, was admitted, and where it was resolved that he should apply to the chancellor for a writ for the electoral prince to sit in the house of peers as duke of Cambridge. The chancellor startled at this unexpected demand, declined giving any answer till he should consult the queen. He hastened to the palace ; the queen, exhibited upon the occasion every symptom of violence and passion. She declared in the most peremptory manner, that she would rather suffer the last extremities than permit any prince of the electoral family to come and reside in Britain during her life ; that she considered the conduct of the resident in the light of a personal affront. She commanded the chancellor to write instantly to Schutz, that having heard nothing of the matter from the court of Hanover, she could not persuade herself that their minister acted

in the present case by their instructions. As a further mark of displeasure she sent the master of the ceremonies to forbid Schutz to appear any more at her court, and to declare to him, at the same time, that she intended to solicit the elector and electress for his instant recall. (*Hanover Papers*, 27th and 29th April, 1714. *Macpherson's Original Papers*, vol. ii. pp. 598, 599.)

At the same time, in order to dissuade the electress and the elector from any idea that her majesty's ill humours against Schutz had in the least altered her mind respecting the protestant succession, orders were sent to the British minister at Hanover, to ask their electoral highnesses what they wanted to be done for the greater security of the protestant succession established in their family, and to assure them that her majesty would have a pleasure in granting whatever they desired in that respect.

In answer to this obliging message their electoral highnesses sent a memorial, May 7th, in which they represented the necessity of obliging the pretender to remove to Italy; that for the security of her royal person, of her kingdom, and of the protestant religion, it would be no less necessary to settle in Great Britain some one of the electoral family, who would be attentive to such important concerns. The time being now come, when the security of their common interests cannot be found any longer, but in a reciprocal confidence, and when their electoral highnesses, as they do not expect the security of their rights to the succession, but from the continuance of her majesty's goodness, so they are ready to contribute on their side, as much as is in their power, to defeat the designs of those who would attempt to disturb the tranquillity and felicity of her glorious reign. Their highnesses renewed likewise the instances they had made nearly two years ago to her majesty and to her mini-

sters, that such a pension and establishment should be settled by act of parliament on her highness the electress, as the nearest heir to the crown usually enjoyed. (*British Museum MSS. Sloane Catalogue*, 4903—55.) The electress died a fortnight after having sent this memorial.

Notwithstanding the kind proposals and promises the queen had made to the elector, the alarms of his friends in England, and their entreaties for sending over the prince electoral, were rather increased; it even appears that they had great hopes of obtaining the point, and the speedy arrival of the prince was become the news of the day. The queen, extremely incensed at it, wrote a very severe letter to the elector upon the subject, May 30th. "I freely own to you," said she, "that I cannot imagine that a prince, who possesses the knowledge and penetration of your electoral highness, can ever contribute to such an attempt; and that I believe you are too just to allow that any infringement should be made on my sovereignty, which you would not choose should be made on your own. I am firmly persuaded, that you would not suffer the smallest diminution of your authority; I am no less delicate in that respect, and I am determined to oppose a project so contrary to my royal authority, however fatal the consequences may be." (*Hanover Papers*, 30th May, 1714. *Macpherson*, vol. ii. p. 621.)

The elector, in his answer, June 15th, did not deny the fact, but endeavoured to appease the queen by the most soothing expressions. "It is so essential to me," said he, "to cultivate the honour of your good graces, that it is natural to imagine, that the presence of one of the princes of my family in your kingdoms could never have any other design than to confirm a good understanding between the two courts, and to render to your

"majesty all possible services, &c. &c. (*British Museum, Sloane Catalogue*, 4903—58.)

A bill is brought in, May 12th, to prevent the growth of the schism, by prohibiting dissenters from teaching in schools and academies. It passes both houses and receives the royal assent; but the queen dying before it was carried into execution, this law was rendered ineffectual.

While the courts of Great Britain and Hanover, the two houses of parliament, and the whole British nation were distracted with hopes and fears about the succession, the arrival of the pretender or of the prince electoral, the chevalier de St. George lived in Lorraine in a state of anxious obscurity. The duke, gained by the softness of his manners, deplored his misfortunes, or forming hopes upon his future prospects, heartily entered into his cause, the success of which was now perhaps more probable than ever from the accounts of his agents, whom the English ministry continued to admit into their conversation. But all of a sudden an information being received against some Irish officers, who enlisted men for the pretender, they were seized by a warrant from the queen's bench; a general alarm ensued, the whigs artfully increased the fears of the people; the adherents of the ministry were terrified, the cabinet-council was assembled, and, pursuant to their vote, a proclamation was issued, June 23d, promising a reward of 5000*l.* for apprehending the pretender, whenever he should land, or pretend to land, in Great Britain. The two houses voted an address of thanks to the queen, and the commons extended the reward to 100,000*l.*

The treaty of commerce with Spain is taken into consideration in the upper house, on the 2d of July; a great number of merchants, examined at the bar, declaring, that unless the explanations of the 3d, 5th, and 8th articles were rescinded, they could

not carry on their commerce without losing 25 per cent.; the house resolve to address the queen for all the papers relating to the negotiation of that treaty, with the names of the persons who had advised her majesty about it. The queen answers to this address, that understanding that the explanatory articles are not detrimental to the trade of her subjects, she has consented to their being ratified with the treaty. The house not being satisfied with this answer, vote a remonstrance to lay before her majesty the insuperable difficulties that attended the Spanish trade on the footing of the treaty. It was also moved, that the house should insist on her majesty's naming the persons who had advised her to ratify the explanatory articles. But lord Bolingbroke's friends warded off that blow, chiefly levelled against him and his agent Arthur Moore, who had the principal management of that affair, and against whom there existed strong suspicions, or rather proofs of bribery, as it was deposed by the secretary of the commissioners that he had shewn him a letter in French from Mr. Orry, importing in substance, *that he must not expect the 2000 louis d'ors per annum, that had been promised him, unless he got the three explanatory articles ratified.*

A few days after, the lords examined the secretary and first clerk to the treasury, respecting the assiento or contract for negroes. They confessed that they were only nominal assignees for the quarter part of the assiento contract reserved for the queen; and that some persons, to them unknown, were to have the benefit of it. This examination was suggested by lord Oxford, now secretly in the interest of the whigs to procure the fall of Bolingbroke. The queen, on reserving for herself the fourth part of the assiento, had divided the benefit of it into sixteen shares, out of which five were designed for the lord treasurer, five for Bolingbroke,

four for lady Masham, and two for Arthur Moore. Lord Oxford perceiving the desperate state of the queen's health, sacrificed an uncertain interest for a certain revenge, and in the course of the examination he did not blush to make himself an evidence against his associates in that disgraceful partnership. He likewise encouraged an address to the queen, requesting her majesty to apply to the use of the public her part of the profits of the assiento contract, as well as such other advantages which were or might be vested in her. The queen, at the suggestion of Bolingbroke, answered, that she had always highly considered the advice of the house, and as to the particulars desired, she would dispose of them as she should judge best for the service.

This answer was very ill relished by the whig lords, and new complaints were already preparing, when the queen came that very day, July 9th, to the house of peers, and put an end to the session, with a speech in which she made no mention either of the house of Hanover or of the pretender. Her fears from the coming of the electoral prince were dissipated, but not her resentment. She told the two houses, "that her chief concern was to pre-
" serve the liberty and religion of her subjects, and
" to secure the present and future tranquillity of
" her kingdom; but that these desirable ends could
" never be attained, unless all groundless jealousies
" which created divisions amongst them, were laid
" aside, and unless they shewed the same regard for
" her just prerogative, and for the honour of her
" government as she had always expressed for the
" rights of her people." These were Anne's last words to her parliament, as she died before the term of the prorogation was expired. Her health, already very much impaired by her late illness, grew worse and worse every day, owing to the violent discord in her councils, and to the open rup-

ture which now broke out between the lord treasurer and lord Bolingbroke. These ministers, no longer restrained by the tie of common danger, gave a full vent to their mutual animosity. Oxford addressed to the queen a brief account of public affairs since his appointment to the office of chancellor of the exchequer, August 8th, 1710, to the 8th of June last, in which he endeavoured to justify his own conduct, and expose the turbulent ambitious spirit of his rival. But Bolingbroke, who a few months since had engrossed the whole confidence of the queen, had now a powerful auxiliary in lady Masham's hatred against the treasurer, who had offended her, not only in the *assiento* business, but by making some days before a demur to a grant made to her of 1500*l.* a-year. He therefore obtained an easy triumph over lord Oxford, who was removed from his employment July 27th.

The fall of the treasurer was so sudden, that no plan had been settled for supplying the vacancy occasioned by his disgrace. The confusion that immediately ensued, and the fatigue of attending a long cabinet council on this event, had such an effect upon the queen's spirits and constitution, that she was immediately seized with a lethargic disorder. The distemper made so rapid a progress, that the next day, July 30th, the physicians despaired of her life. The committee of the council assembled at Kensington, and the physicians having declared that her majesty was still sensible, the council unanimously agreed to recommend the duke of Shrewsbury as the fittest person to fill the place of lord treasurer. When this opinion was intimated to the queen, she said they could not have recommended a person she liked better; and she delivered the white staff to the duke, bidding him use it for the good of her people. He would have returned the lord chamberlain's staff, but she desired he would

keep them both; so that he was at one time lord treasurer, lord chamberlain, and lord lieutenant of Ireland. All privy counsellors in or about London were invited to attend at Kensington without distinction of party.

The council being thus reinforced, began to provide for the security of the kingdom. Four regiments of horse and dragoons were ordered to march up to the neighbourhood of London and Westminster; seven of the ten battalions in the Netherlands were directed to embark for England with all possible expedition; an embargo was laid upon all shipping, and orders were given for equipping all the ships of war that could be soonest in a condition for service. They sent a letter to the elector of Brunswick, signifying that the physicians had despaired of the queen's life, informing him of the measures they had taken, and desiring he would, with all convenient speed, repair to Holland, where he should be attended by a British squadron to convey him to England, in case of her majesty's decease. At the same time they dispatched instructions to the earl of Strafford, to desire the states-general would be ready to perform the guarantee of the protestant succession. The heralds at arms were kept in waiting with a troop of horse-guards to proclaim the new king, as soon as the throne should become vacant. Precautions were taken to secure the sea-ports, to overawe the jacobites in Scotland, and the command of the fleet was bestowed upon the earl of Berkeley.

Attending only to facts, and putting aside the exaggerated and contradictory account of men of opposite parties respecting the events of that period, it should seem that the queen's affections and wishes in her last moments were entirely in favour of her brother, according to the following anecdote, related by Mr. Carte, who probably had it

from the duke of Ormond, for he marks it on the top *D. of Ormond* :—

“ The night before the queen died, when the council broke up, the duke of Buckingham came to the duke of Ormond, clapped his hand on his shoulder, and said, ‘ My lord, you have only twenty-four hours time to do your business in, and make yourself master of the kingdom.’ ”

“ The queen, before she died, sent for the bishop of London, made a sort of confession to him, particularly as to her brother ; for it could not well relate to any thing else. When the bishop took leave of her to go out of the room, he said aloud, in the presence of the duchess of Ormond and other company, ‘ *Madam, I’ll obey your commands : I’ll declare your mind ; but it will cost me my head.* ’ The queen proposed to receive the sacrament next day, but died first.”
(*Carte’s Memorandum Book*, vol. ii. 4to. p. 13.)

Her majesty expired on Sunday the 1st of August, at seven o’clock in the morning, in the 50th year of her age, and the 13th of her reign.

Queen Anne, as to her person, was of a middle size, and well made, her complexion sanguine and ruddy, her face rather pleasing than handsome. She had beautiful hands, and a remarkable clear harmonious voice, which particularly appeared in the graceful delivery of her speeches to the parliament. Upon her accession to the throne she assumed the motto “ *Semper eadem*, ” (the same for ever) of queen Elizabeth, whom she professed to have chosen for her pattern ; but she could not assume with the motto that vigorous steadiness of mind it implied ; that precious energy, which on the throne enhances all other virtues, and really constitutes a great prince, by maintaining his dignity, and by securing his independence against the snares of sycophants and the influence of favourites.

The ascendancy of the latter never was carried so far as did the duchess of Marlborough towards the weak queen Anne, whose favourite she was from their earliest age, and over whom she gradually acquired such an absolute imperious sway, as to reduce her majesty to be a mere cypher during the most glorious years of her reign, while all her power and authority was monopolized by the duchess, her husband, and their connexions. Lord Oxford, in his *Reminiscences*, relates an anecdote, which conveys a very exact idea of the character of that haughty favourite.

“ The beauty of the duchess of Marlborough had always been of the scornful and imperious kind; her features and air announced nothing that her temper did not confirm. Both together, her beauty and her temper, enslaved her heroic lord. One of her principal charms was a prodigious abundance of fine fair hair, which the duke was never tired to admire. One day, at her toilet, in anger to him, she cut off those commanding tresses and flung them in his face. Nor did her insolence stop there, till it had totally estranged and worn out the patience of the poor queen her mistress. The duchess was often seen to give her majesty her fan and gloves, and turn away her own head, as if the queen had offensive smells.”

When her majesty's disgust, artfully improved by the gentle insinuations of a new favourite, rose to such a degree as to empower her to shake off the shameful fetters the duchess had imposed on her, she then began to be in reality, what she had been hitherto by name only, a queen of England. If she is entitled to no share in the renowned victories, which attached so much glory to the former part of her reign, it cannot be denied that the restoration of general tranquillity both in England and

on the continent, was principally due to the steadiness of her pacific resolutions. It even appears, from the correspondence of her ministers, that she really acted in those negotiations the part which behoved a powerful sovereign, balancing the destinies of Europe; happy if those very ministers had not disturbed, disgraced, and even accelerated the end of her reign, by their intestine divisions, which threw such a confusion among the different parties both in the parliament and in the council, that they were all at a loss to account for the inconsistency of their own proceedings! Thence proceeds the difficulty of being at once accurate and intelligible in writing the history of that period. But, to conclude the character of the good queen Anne, it may be said with truth, that though deficient in all the shining qualifications of queen Elizabeth, she emulated her by the popularity she constantly enjoyed and deserved by her motherly fondness for her people, by whom she was universally beloved with a warmth of affection which even the prejudices of party could not abate. The virtues of her heart were never called in question; she was a faithful affectionate wife, a tender mother, a warm friend, a benevolent and merciful princess, under whose reign no subject's blood was shed for treason. Had it not been for her weakness, rather than for her ambition, she would also have proved a dutiful daughter and sister; particularly if her brother, instead of saying, as the French king Henry IV. "*La couronne de France vaut bien une masse*," the crown of France is well worth a mass, he had said, *the crown of Britain is much better than a mass*. But this virtuous prince was too convinced of the truth of his religion, not to prefer it to any crown in the world. With queen Anne ended the unfortunate dynasty of Stuart.

DYNASTY OF BRUNSWICK.

GENEALOGICAL LINE.

[M. married.—D. died.]

Azo II. (the Great) Markgrave of Este, in Ferrara, M. Cunegonda of Bavaria, heiress of the lower Bavaria and the Guelphic States. D. 1055
 Welfo IV. invested with the whole duchy of Bavaria, M. Judith of Flanders, sister of Maud, wife of William the Conqueror D. 1101
 Henry the Black, M. Welf of Saxony. D. 1125
 Henry the Proud, M. Gertrude, a daughter of the Emperor Lothar. c. D. 1138
 Henry Leo, M. Mathilda of England. In his person the ancient line of Witi-kind the Great was blended with those of Este, the Guelphs, and Billungs. D. 1195
 William Longsword, M. Helen of Denmark. D. 1213
 Otto the Infant, first created Duke of Brunswick Lunenburgh, M. Mathilda of Brandenburg. D. 1252
 Albert the Great, M. Adelaide of Montferrat. D. 1279
 Albert the Fat, M. Rixa, Princess of Wenden. D. 1318
 Magnus the Pious, M. Sophia of Brandenburg. D. 1368
 Magnus Torquatus, M. Catherine of Brandenburg. D. 1373
 Bernard, M. Margaret of Saxony, D. 1433
 Frederic the Religious, M. Magdalen of Brandenburg. D. 1478
 Otto the Magnanimous, M. Anne of Nassau. D. 1491
 Henry Junior, M. Margaret of Saxony, D. 1532
 Ernest the Pious, M. Sophia of Mecklenburgh. D. 1546
 William, M. Dorothy of Denmark. D. 1592
 George, Duke of Brunswick Lunenburgh, M. Anne Eleanor of Hesse Darmstadt. D. 1641
 Ernest Augustus, M. Sophia, grand daughter of James I.

James VI. of Scotland and I. of England.
Anne of Denmark

Charles I
Henrietta of France

Elizabeth
Frederic V. Elector
Palatine, afterwards
King of Bohemia

—Sophia
Ernest Augustus I.
Elector of Hanover

30
George I.
Sophia of Zell

31
George II.
Caroline of Anspack

Frederic
Prince of Wales
Augusta of Gotha

32
George III.
Charlotte of Mecklenburgh

GEORGE I. Thirtieth King from the Conquest.

[Grand grandson to James I. ; grandson to princess Elizabeth, daughter of James I. married to the elector Palatine, son of Ernest Augustus, first elector of Brunswick Lunenburgh by the princess Sophia, daughter of princess Elizabeth, Palatine electress ; born May 28, 1660 ; the succession settled on his mother 1700 ; married the princess Sophia Dorothy, daughter and heiress of the duke of Zell ; created duke of Cambridge, &c. October 5, 1706 ; proclaimed king of Great Britain, August 1, 1714, at the age of 54 years ; landed at Greenwich, September 18 following ; crowned October 20 ; died at Osnaburgh, June 11, 1727, aged 67.]

Ann. 1714.

THE paramount authority, or rather the salutary omnipotence of the English constitution, never had a more glorious display than on the accession of the illustrious house of Brunswick to the throne of Great Britain, a period pregnant with all the elements of a civil war ; when the whole nation was divided into two opposite parties, whose animosity was raised to such a pitch as to convert them into factions ; when an ancient dynasty, still existing, was to be proscribed in favour of a new one ; in short, when the natural heir to the late queen, by the right of his birth, supported by a strong party at home, and likely to be so by some foreign powers, was to be excluded by the legal heir, supported only by an act of parliament. All these symptoms of danger vanished, however, at the very instant of queen Anne's death. George was proclaimed king, and immediately all parties, rallying themselves

around the constitutional settlement of the crown, concurred in acknowledging the lawfulness of his majesty's claim to it.

Queen Anne was no sooner expired, than the privy council met, and the archbishop of Canterbury, the lord chancellor, and the Hanoverian resident, produced the three instruments, in which the elector of Brunswick, pursuant to the act of parliament, had nominated the persons to be added as lord justices to the seven great offices of the realm. Dr. Tennison, archbishop of Canterbury, lord chancellor Harcourt, the duke of Buckinghamshire, lord president; the duke of Shrewsbury, lord treasurer; the earl of Dartmouth, lord privy seal; the earl of Strafford, first commissioner of the admiralty; and sir Thomas Parker, lord chief justice. The persons nominated by the elector of Brunswick to compose the regency, together with them, were the dukes of Shrewsbury, Somerset, Bolton, Devonshire, Kent, Argyle, Montrose, and Roxburg, the earls of Pomfret, Anglesey, Carlisle, Nottingham, Abingdon, Scarborough, Orford, viscount Townshend, lord Halifax, and lord Cowper.

Orders are immediately issued by the regency for proclaiming the king in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the earl of Dorset is appointed to carry to Hanover the intimation of his majesty's accession. The parliament meets on the same day, August 1. On the 5th of the same month, the lord justices enter the house of peers; the chancellor, in his speech to both houses, acquaints them with the proceedings of the regency for maintaining the public peace, observes that several branches of the public revenue were expired by the demise of her late majesty, and recommends to the commons the making such provisions in that respect as may be requisite to support the honour and dignity of the crown. Addresses of both houses, containing

the warmest expressions of duty and affection to their new sovereign, who did not fail to return such answers as were very agreeable to his parliament. The commons pass a bill, granting to his majesty the same civil list which the queen had enjoyed; with additional clauses for the payment of arrears due to the troops of Hanover, which had been in the service of Great Britain, and for a reward of 100,000*l.* to any person who should apprehend the pretender in landing or attempting to land, in any part of the English dominions. On the 25th of August the lord justices prorogued the parliament to the 3d of September.

A letter from the king of France to the lord justices, assuring them that he would do all that lay in his power to maintain a good intelligence and amity between the two crowns. About the same time the regency received several orders from the king, particularly for preparing a patent to create the prince royal prince of Wales, and for removing lord Bolingbroke from his office of secretary of state, which was done with particular marks of severity; the seals were taken from him, and all the doors of his office locked and sealed up.

The chevalier de St. George was no sooner informed that the queen was dead, or past recovery, than he posted to Versailles; but upon his arrival he received an intimation from the marquis de Torcy, desiring him to quit immediately the territories of France; he was accordingly obliged to return to Bar le Duc.

The king having committed the government of his German dominions to a council, at the head of which he placed his brother, prince Ernest, went to the Hague, embarked with the prince royal, September 16, and arrived at Greenwich, September 18, at six o'clock in the evening. Before landing he knighted Mr. William Sanderson, the captain of his

yacht, and appointed the earls of Dorset and Berkeley to be lords of the bedchamber. He then walked to the palace through the park, accompanied by most of the nobility, and great numbers of the principal gentry, amidst an infinite crowd of persons of all conditions.

George had now a very important point to settle, as from it materially depended the future tranquility of his reign; he had his ministers to choose either among the whigs; or among the tories, as queen Anne had done alternately; or to compose, as did king William, a motley administration, a very hazardous trial, which required no less than all his abilities to make it practicable, though never with any remarkable success. George, unwilling to try again such an experiment, preferred by far wholly to resign himself and his cause to either of the two parties; and the zeal, prudence, activity, and foresight, with which the leaders of the whigs had constantly promoted, and finally secured the succession in the protestant line, determined his choice. "My maxim," said he, soon after his arrival in England, "is never to abandon my friends, "to do justice to all the world, and to fear no man;" qualifications the more valuable, that a Machiavelian maxim more generally prevailing, particularly among the princes, is to do little or nothing for their friends, as they have nothing to apprehend from them, and to do every thing for their enemies, in proportion as they want to conciliate them.

Lord Oxford, who was not at Greenwich when the king arrived, was one of the earliest there the next morning; but he had the mortification to remain a considerable time unnoticed among the crowd, and with great difficulty was permitted at last to kiss the king's hand, without being honoured with a single word; while, on the other hand, the

duke of Marlborough, lately arrived in England, was received with great distinction, as well as all the leaders of the whig party. An instantaneous and total change was effected both in the king's household, and in all other offices of honour or advantage; and the tories, except the earl of Nottingham, were excluded from all share in the royal favour. The duke of Ormond was dismissed from the command of the army, which was restored to the duke of Marlborough, who was likewise appointed colonel of the first regiment of the foot guards, and master of the ordnance. The great seal was given to lord Cowper, the privy seal to the earl of Wharton, and the government of Ireland to the earl of Sunderland. A new privy council was appointed, and the earl of Nottingham declared president; but all affairs of any importance were concerted by a cabinet council or junto, consisting principally of Marlborough, Nottingham, Sunderland, Halifax, Townshend, Cowper, Stanhope, and Somers. Soon after the treasury and the admiralty were put in commission.

The exclusion of the tories from all places of trust and confidence, exclusively bestowed upon the whigs, was severely censured, as making the monarch the leader of a party, instead of the sovereign of his people at large. It must be considered, however, that at that time, the inveteracy between the two parties, the temper of the nation, and the animosity derived from the clash of civil and religious opinions were so violent, that there was no possibility of forming a solid coalition between the whigs and the tories.

The day appointed for the coronation drawing near, the king, as usual on such occasions, advanced some of the peers to higher ranks and created some new ones. The ceremony of the coronation was performed October 20, with the usual magnificence.

The first affair which engaged the king's attention was the execution of the treaty of Utrecht, respecting the demolition of Dunkirk. Mr. Prior, still British resident in France, was ordered to present a memorial to that effect. The answer he received being deemed equivocal, this minister was recalled, and the earl of Stair appointed ambassador to France. He prosecuted the affair with great vigour, and demanded the discontinuation of the canal of Mardyke, where another harbour was in great forwardness. But the court of France would not yield, and maintained that the stipulations respecting the demolition of Dunkirk, could not deprive the king of the natural right of a sovereign, to make, on any other part of the coast, what works he should judge proper for the advantage of his subjects. The earl of Stair still insisting, Lewis superciliously answered him, "Mr. Ambassador, I have always been master at home, and sometimes elsewhere; do not make me remember of it."

General Cadogan, the intimate friend of Marlborough, is sent to Antwerp as plenipotentiary, to assist at the negotiation of the barrier-treaty, between the emperor and the states-general.

The clamour of the church being in danger is revived; jealousies are excited, seditious libels dispersed, dangerous tumults and riots raised in different parts of the kingdom. The pretender, at this juncture, sends by the post to the dukes of Marlborough, Shrewsbury, Argyle, and other noblemen, copies of a manifesto, printed in English, French, and Latin, signed at the top, *James R.* and dated at Plombieres, the 20th of August, 1714, asserting his claim to the crown of Great Britain, and mentioning the good intentions of his sister towards him, which had been frustrated by her deplorable death, and complaining that his people had immediately proclaimed for their king a foreign

prince, contrary to the fundamental and incontestable laws of hereditary right, which pretended acts of settlement can never abrogate.

Ann. 1715.

The parliament is dissolved, and another is called, January 15, by a remarkable proclamation, in which the king complains of the evil designs of men affected to his succession, and expresses his hopes that his loving subjects will send up to parliament the fittest persons to redress the present disorders; and that in the elections *they will have a particular regard to such as shewed a firmness to the protestant succession when it was in danger.*

The earl of Strafford being returned to England, all original instructions, orders, and letters he had received from the late ministers, and also all the letters written by him, are seized pursuant to an order of council.

The elections were carried on with great warmth by both parties, but with great superiority on the side of the whigs. The parliament met, March 17; the king's speech, besides the usual topics on such occasions, expressed his regret that the unparalleled successes of a war, so wisely and cheerfully supported by the nation, had not been attended with a more advantageous peace; and that some conditions, even of that peace, essential to the security and trade of Great Britain, were not duly executed, and might be looked upon as precarious, until defensive alliances were formed to guarantee the present treaties. "The pretender, who still resides in Lorraine," added he, "threatens to disturb us, and boasts of the assistance which he still expects here, to repair his former disappointments."

The lords, in their address, expressed their hopes that the king, assisted by his parliament, would be

able to recover the reputation of the kingdom in foreign parts. The commons declared their resolution to inquire into these fatal mismanagements by which the country was depressed, to trace out those measures whereon the pretender placed his hopes, and bring the author of them to condign punishment. Mr. Secretary Stanhope assured the house, that notwithstanding all the endeavours which had been used by the late ministry to prevent the discovery of their guilty transactions, by conveying away several papers from the secretary's office, yet the government had sufficient evidence left to prove the late ministry the most corrupt that ever sat at the helm; and that it would appear that a certain general (meaning the duke of Ormond) had acted in concert with, ~~is~~ not received orders from, mareschal de Villars.

Lord Bolingbroke finding that it was now high time to consult his personal safety, withdraws to the continent, leaving a letter, which was afterwards printed in his justification, and in which he declared that had there been the least reason to hope for a fair and open trial, he should not have declined the strictest examination, challenging the most inveterate of his enemies to produce any instance of criminal correspondence, or the least corruption in any part of the administration in which he was concerned.

The commons enter upon the inquiry into the conduct of the late ministry. All the papers relating to the late negotiations on the treaties of peace and commerce, and the cessation of arms, are presented to the house in fourteen volumes. These papers are referred to a select committee, composed of twenty-one members, chosen by ballot. They meet the same day, and choose Mr. Robert Walpole for their chairman.

The sum of 700,000*l.* clear, was granted by the commons for the civil list during his majesty's life.

There was a warm debate a few days after upon a motion for an address against pensions, many of which had been lately given by the crown to several persons of quality, who, as it was said by the leading tories, had no occasion for them. The motion was negatived by a majority of 191 against 188.

Sir John Norris, with a squadron of twenty men of war and a fleet of merchant ships, sails to the Baltic, in order to protect the commerce of the nation against Sweden, as Charles XII. having rejected the treaty of neutrality concerted by the allies for the security of the empire, had caused all ships trading to those parts to be seized and confiscated. King George, for the security of his German dominions, concluded a treaty with the king of Denmark, by which it was agreed that the duchies of Bremen and Verden should be made over to his Britannic majesty, his heirs and posterity, on condition that he should, the moment he took possession of them, declare war against Sweden. The duchies were accordingly delivered up, October 15, on which day a declaration of war was published by king George in his German dominions.

In the mean time the spirit of discontent and disaffection seemed to increase every day all over England, in proportion with the animosity of the whigs against the tories, and particularly against the late ministers, for whom the common people loudly professed their attachment, on account of their having enjoyed the confidence of their beloved queen Anne. Notwithstanding proclamations against riots, and orders of the justices for maintaining the peace, repeated tumults were raised in the cities of London and Westminster. Those who celebrated the king's birth-day with the usual marks of joy and festivity, were insulted by the populace, while the next day, which was the anniversary of the restoration, the whole city was lighted up with bonfires and illumina-

nations. The people even obliged the life-guards, who patrolled through the streets, to join in the cry of "*High church and Ormond for ever!*" and in Smithfield they burned the effigy of king William.

On the 9th of June Mr. Walpole, as chairman of the secret committee, informed the house the report was ready, and moved that a warrant might be issued by the speaker, for apprehending several persons, particularly Mr. Matthew Prior and Mr. Thomas Harley, who being in the house, were both immediately taken into custody. The report being read, a motion was made, that the consideration of it should be adjourned to a certain day; a debate ensued, and the motion was rejected by a great majority, and the result of the debate was the impeachment of lord Bolingbroke, of lord Oxford, and the duke of Ormond, for high treason, and other high crimes and misdemeanours. The earl of Strafford was likewise impeached a few days after.

The articles of impeachment against lord Oxford being approved by the commons, he was immediately impeached in the usual form at the bar of the house of lords, where a violent altercation ensued. At last Oxford, who was present, rose up and spoke to the following purpose:—"I am accused," said he, "for having made a peace, a peace which, bad as it is now represented, has been approved by two successive parliaments. For my own part, I always acted by the immediate directions and commands of the queen my mistress, and never offended against any known law. I am justified in my own conscience and unconcerned for the life of an old insignificant man. But I cannot, without the greatest ingratitude, remain unconcerned for the best of queens. I think myself under an obligation to vindicate her memory, and the measures she pursued,

“ to my dying breath. My lords, if ministers of
“ state, acting by the immediate commands of
“ their sovereign, are afterwards to be made ac-
“ countable for their proceedings, it may one day
“ or other be the case of all the members of this
“ august assembly. I hope that in the prosecution
“ of this inquiry it will appear that I have merited
“ not only the indulgence but the favour of this go-
“ vernment. My lords, I am now to take my leave
“ of your lordships, and of this honourable house,
“ perhaps for ever. I shall lay down my life with
“ pleasure in a cause favoured by my late dear
“ royal mistress; and when I consider that I am to
“ be judged by the justice, honour and virtue of
“ my peers, I shall acquiesce and retire with great
“ content; and, my lords, God’s will be done.”

As he was actually much indisposed with the gravel he was not sent immediately to the tower, and he was allowed to remain three or four days at his own house, in custody of the black rod. The next day the lords allowed him a month to answer the articles of impeachment.

When the earl of Oxford went home, he was attended by a mob, crying out, “ *High church, Or-
mond and Oxford for ever!* ” A few days after, when he was carried to the tower, the crowd was still more considerable, and so clamorous as to raise an alarming tumult in the streets. As these riots became every day more frequent, and were spread through the kingdom, the commons, for the more effectual prevention of such disturbances, passed the famous *Proclamation Act*, declaring, “ That if any
“ persons, to the number of twelve, unlawfully
“ assembled, should continue together one hour
“ after being required to disperse by a justice of
“ peace, or other officer, and after hearing the acts
“ against riots read in public, they should be deemed
“ guilty of felony without benefit of clergy.” This

act immediately received the royal assent, and was the more approved by his majesty, that he declared, in a speech delivered to both houses by the chancellor, that he had certain advice, "that attempts" "were preparing by the pretender from abroad," "and carrying on at home by a restless party in his" "favour."

This act, however, the most severe that passed during this century, was at that time, and has been since, bitterly censured as an unconstitutional restriction on the liberty of the subject, as all meetings of the people, either for amusement, or for the purpose of redress of their grievances, might be rendered criminal, if any magistrate was pleased to consider them as such; a case indeed not out of possibility, but certainly out of all probability from any magistrate in his senses; while, on the other hand, the lives, liberty, and property of the most peaceable portion of the community, as well as the security of the state, would be most materially endangered by attempting to quell popular commotions with those moderate measures, occasionally sufficient to prevent, but always inadequate to stop and repress them, which can never be effected but by a great display of rigour and severity.

Both houses vote an address to the king, assuring him that they will, with their lives and fortunes, stand by and support him, against all his open and secret enemies, and desire him to give such directions as may be necessary for securing the defence of the coasts, and to issue out commissions for augmenting his forces by land. Pursuant to this address, thirteen regiments of dragoons and eight of foot are ordered to be raised. An act is passed at the same time to empower his majesty to secure suspected persons, and to suspend the *habeas corpus* act in that time of danger.

Lord Bolingbroke is impeached at the bar of the

house of lords. Bills being brought in to summon him and the duke of Ormond to surrender themselves by the 10th of September, or in default thereof, to attain them of high treason; these bills pass both houses, and receive the royal assent. The articles of impeachment against the earl of Strafford are also presented to the house of lords, who resolve, according to his demand, that he shall be indulged with copies of such papers as he might have occasion to use in his defence.

The duke of Ormond and lord Bolingbroke, having failed to surrender themselves within the limited time, the earl marshal is ordered by the house of lords to raze their names and armorial bearings out of the list of peers.

An act is passed, August 30, for encouraging loyalty in Scotland. By this act, every vassal that holds lands of any superior, guilty of high treason by abetting the pretender, shall be invested with the said lands in fee and heritage for ever. There was another clause for summoning any suspected person in Scotland, to appear at Edinburgh or where it should be judged expedient, to find bail for their good behaviour, with certification, that if they did not appear at the time appointed, they would be denounced as rebels. Notwithstanding this measure, the rebellion breaks out in Scotland under the direction of the earl of Mar, who was to be supported by a great conspiracy in England. He proclaims the pretender under the name of James III. and sets up his standard, September 6. Several suspected persons are committed to the castle of Edinburgh; a conspiracy is formed to seize that place, but the conspirators fail in their attempt. A more dangerous conspiracy is discovered and prevented in England. The duke of Powis, the lords Lansdown, and Duplin, are committed to the Tower for high treason; a warrant is issued out to seize the earl of

Jersey, and six members of the commons are apprehended with the consent of the house. The parliament is prorogued, September 21.

The duke of Ormond and lord Bolingbroke, condemned, unheard, and attainted, had retired to France. The pretender appointed the duke his prime minister, and lord Bolingbroke secretary of state. In the mean time, being privately supplied with sums of money by Lewis XIV. he prepared a small armament in the port of Havre, under a fictitious name. Two of his vessels arrived at Arbroath, with arms, ammunition, and a great number of officers, who assured the earl of Mar that the pretender would soon be with them. The death of Lewis XIV. happening at that time, struck a general damp upon their spirits; they however entertained the most sanguine expectations of being reinforced by a powerful body in England.

The rebels are attacked at Preston by general Carpenter, and obliged to surrender, November 13. On the same day the earl of Mar was defeated at Dumblain by the duke of Argyle. Six thousand men claimed from the states-general, pursuant to the treaty, arrive in England, and are sent immediately to Scotland to reinforce the duke of Argyle, who had resolved to drive the earl of Mar out of Perth, wherein he had retired with the remains of his forces.

The pretender embarks in a small vessel at Dunkirk, and arrives at Peterhead, December 22, with six gentlemen, one of whom was the marquis of Tinmouth, son to the duke of Berwick. Thence he goes to Fetteross, where he is met by the earl of Mar and about thirty noblemen and gentlemen of the first quality. Here he was solemnly proclaimed; his declaration, dated at Commercy, was printed and circulated through all the ports in that neighbourhood.

Ann. 1716.

The pretender makes his public entry into Dundee, and goes to Scone, with an intention of staying until the ceremony of his coronation should be performed. Thence he makes an excursion to Perth, where having reviewed his forces, he assembles a regular council, publishes six proclamations, and makes a pathetic speech to all the chiefs of his party. But, on considering that the king's army was reinforced by the auxiliaries, and that they themselves were not only reduced to a small number, but likewise destitute of money, arms, ammunition, forage, and provisions, they unanimously determined to abandon the enterprise. The pretender, closely pursued by the duke of Argyle, embarked on board a small French ship, with the earls of Mar and Melford, lord Drummond, and other persons of distinction, to the number of seventeen, and arrived in five days at Gravelines.

Thus ended a rebellion that proved fatal to many noble families, and was entirely owing to the violent measures of the ministry, which kindled such an animosity in the nation as encouraged the partizans of the pretender to hazard a revolt.

The parliament of Ireland seemed even more zealous, if possible, than that of England. They engaged in an association against the pretender, and all his abettors; they set a price on his head, and attainted the duke of Ormond.

The English parliament met, January 9; the commons, in their address, declared that they would prosecute in the most vigorous and impartial manner the authors of the destructive counsels, which had drawn down these miseries upon the nation. They forthwith impeached the earls of Derwentwater, Nithsdale, Cornwarth, and Wintoun, lords

Nairn, Finch, Weddrington, and Kenmare, and attainted the marquis of Tullibardine, the earls of Mar and Linlithgow, and lord John Drummond. The impeached lords pleaded guilty, and received sentence of death. Their relations vainly applied for mercy to the king and to both houses. The council resolved that the sentence should be executed; nay, the earl of Nottingham, president of the council, having discovered on this occasion some inclination to indulgence, was dismissed from the king's service, as well as his brother and his son.

A commission for trying the rebels of an inferior rank met in the beginning of April, and declared guilty of high treason Messrs. Foster, Mackintosh, and 20 of their confederates. The judges appointed for the same purpose at Liverpool, found a considerable number guilty of high treason; 22 were executed, and about 1000 submitted to the king's mercy, and petitioned for transportation.

The rebels were subdued, but the unrelenting severity exercised against them had considerably increased the general discontent; and the fortitude with which the condemned persons encountered the pains of death, had prepossessed many spectators in favour of the cause for which so much courage was displayed by these unhappy victims. The ministry, perceiving the progress of this universal disaffection, apprehended that a new parliament might wrest the power from their faction, and retort upon them the violence of their own measures. They found no other scheme to provide for it than to repeal the triennial act, and by a new law to extend the term of parliament to seven years. The motion was at first introduced into the house of lords, on a representation that triennial elections kept up party divisions, raised and fomented feuds in private families, and produced ruinous expenses; that the frequency of elections might be attended with the most dangerous

consequences, especially in the present temper of the nation, as the spirit of rebellion still remained unconquered. The motion was strenuously opposed by the earl of Nottingham and many other peers; they observed, that the proposed measure was a manifest violation of the constitution ascertained by the practice of many ages; that frequent elections were a necessary right of the subject to remedy abuses; that if the present house of commons continued themselves beyond the term for which they were chosen, they would be no longer the representatives of the people, nor a house of commons, but a house of their own making. It was urged likewise, that the necessary consequence of such an innovation, must be a considerable alteration in the liberty and independence of the house of commons towards the crown, by increasing their apprehension of a dissolution. In short, all the arguments which have been opposed since by the whigs to the tories, against septennial parliaments, were opposed at that time by the tories to the whigs, who promoted that measure. Upon the whole, the question being put in the house of lords, was carried by a majority of 69 voices against 36; but 24 lords protested against it. The bill was immediately sent down to the commons, where it passed by a majority of 264 against 121, and being sent back to the lords, received soon after the royal assent.

The rebellion being utterly quelled, the king resolved to visit his German dominions; and as he was restricted from leaving Great Britain by the act for the farther limitation of the crown, this clause was repealed by a new bill that passed without any difficulty. On the 26th day of June his majesty closed the session, embarked for Holland July 9th, and arrived on the 15th at Hanover. The most obvious and natural method of carrying on the government during his majesty's absence, was the

appointment of the prince of Wales to the regency ; but this measure was obstructed by an unfortunate jealousy, which the king for many years entertained of his son. Under these impressions, George was unwilling to entrust him with the government without joining other persons in the commission, and limiting his authority by the most rigorous restrictions ; but as no instance was found of persons having ever been joined in commission with the prince of Wales in the regency of the kingdom, he did not give him the title of regent, but appointed him *Guardian of the realm, and his Lieutenant*, an office unknown in England since the time of Edward the black prince. In the mean time the principal direction of affairs was committed to Townshend and Walpole.

Few occurrences worth noticing happened in England during the king's absence, but Hanover now became the centre of the most important negotiations, both to complete the acquisition made by the king of Bremen and Verden, and to secure tranquillity at home by a strict union with France. The two provinces of Bremen and Verden, commanding the navigation of the Elbe and Weser, the only inlets from the British seas into Germany, and which, in case of any disturbance in the North, are most capable of protecting or interrupting the British trade to Hamburgh, were undoubtedly a most valuable acquisition for the king of Great Britain ; but the king of Sweden, Charles XII. was extremely provoked at the conduct of George I. who, with a view of consolidating the acquisition or rather usurpation of these provinces, had joined the confederacy against him ; and the Swedish ministers both at London and at the Hague, caballed with the disaffected in England, and preparations were making to invade Great Britain with a considerable army in favour of the pretender, his Swed-

ish majesty refusing to listen to any overtures until Bremen and Verden should be restored.

The next great object of the British cabinet was to form such alliances with the European powers as would counteract the intrigues of the pretender, and awe his followers into submission. That great end could not be attained but by securing the friendship of France, and her support to the protestant succession; and by forming at the same time so intimate a connection with the emperor and Holland, as to set France at defiance. In consequence, the ancient alliance with the United Provinces was renewed, February 16th; a new defensive treaty with the emperor was concluded, May 25th; and the British cabinet informed the duke of Orleans, now regent in France, that the departure of the pretender to the other side of the Alps was an indispensable preliminary. The duke of Orleans employed in this negociation the abbé Dubois, who repaired to Hanover, where the business was carried on by secretary Stanhope, under the immediate direction of the king. After a few conferences Dubois agreed, in the name of the regent, to send the pretender beyond the Alps, and to demolish the port of Mardyke, on condition of confirming the article in the treaty of Utrecht, which guaranteed the succession to the crown of France to the house of Orleans should Lewis XV. die without issue.

During the king's absence the prince of Wales was become extremely popular, by his affability and condescension to all persons without distinction of parties; and by the wisdom and moderation he had displayed in his administration. He still increased his popularity by a short progress into Kent, Sussex, and Hampshire. These circumstances were not concealed from the king. The jealousy he entertained against his son, did not fail to be alarmed at it, and induced him not to postpone his return to

England, where his presence was still more necessary to counteract the hostile schemes of the Swedish king.

Ann. 1717.

The king arrives in England towards the end of January, and sends immediately a detachment of foot-guards to secure the Swedish minister, with all his papers, and the secretaries of the legation. About the same time baron Gortz, the Swedish resident in Holland, was seized, with his papers, at the desire of king George. The baron owned he had projected the invasion, and his papers proved that the scheme was not only plausible, but even ripe for execution, which, however, was postponed until the army should be reduced, and the Dutch auxiliaries sent back to their own country. These papers were laid before the parliament, who met on the 20th day of February, and afforded to his majesty a powerful motive to obtain such supplies as should be found necessary for the defence of the kingdom.

A considerable and unexpected change in the ministry had taken place a few days before the king's return. The seeds of discontent had taken root from the beginning of George's reign, and were brought to maturity by the intrigues of the German junto, who principally governed the king. This junto, at his accession, and for some time, consisted of his German ministers, and of his two mistresses, the baronesses of Schulenburg and Kilmanseck, the former created afterwards duchess of Kendal, and the latter countess of Darlington. The ministers were baron Bothmar, count Bernsdorf, and Robethon a French refugee, who was the king's secretary. Besides these persons of ostensible consequence, there were two Turks, Mustapha and

Mahomet, who being taken prisoners in Hungary, had served the king, when electoral prince, with such zeal and fidelity, that he took them to Hanover, brought them to England, and made them pages of the back stairs. Their influence over their master was so great, that they obtained considerable sums of money for recommendation to places, and that their names are mentioned in a dispatch of count Broglio to the king of France. Their portraits are in the great staircase at Kensington palace. (*Lysons's Environs of London.*)

These foreigners considered England as a kind of land of promise, and at the same time as so precarious a possession, that they endeavoured to enrich themselves with all possible speed. Private emoluments did not, however, satisfy their rapaciousness; they began to aim at the honours of rank and pre-eminence. The ladies were desirous of being made peeresses; Bothmar and Bernsdorf aspired to a seat in the house of lords. The act of settlement being an insuperable barrier to their pretensions, they were opposed by lord Townshend and Robert Walpole, the leading ministers of the cabinet. Their resistance irritated to such a degree the Hanoverian crew, that by their cabals and the intrigues of Sunderland and Stanhope, they endeavoured to counteract the influence of these two ministers, and infuse into the king's mind such prejudices and suspicions on their pretended partiality to the prince of Wales, as to determine his majesty to remove Townshend from the ministry, and appoint him lord lieutenant of Ireland, a place from which he was soon after dismissed, which was followed by the resignation of Walpole, and the removal of their friends from their places at court or in the administration. (*Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole, vol. i. chap. 13, 15, 16.*)

The papers of baron Gortz being read, raised the

utmost indignation in both houses ; addresses full of the most lively expressions of loyalty and zeal, were presented to the king. Three or four days after their address, the commons passed a bill for prohibiting all commerce with Sweden as long as the king should think it necessary for the safety and peace of the nation. The indignation was so general, that though this branch of trade was of the utmost consequence to the English merchants, the bill met with little opposition. The commons vote 10,000 seamen for the present year, and 959,943*l.* for maintaining the guards, garrisons, and land forces, besides 24,000*l.* for the payment of four battalions of Munster, and two of Saxe Gotha, which the king had taken into his service. The money voted for the army, navy, and other particulars, amounted to above two millions and a half.

While the commons were settling the ways and means to raise these supplies, Mr. Secretary Stanhope delivered to the house the following message from the king :—" His majesty being desirous, not
" only to secure his kingdom against the present
" danger from Sweden, but to prevent as far as
" possible the like apprehension for the future,
" thinks it necessary that such measures should be
" early concerted as may conduce most effectually
" to this end, and as this may require some ex-
" pense, his majesty hopes that his commons will
" enable him to make good such engagements as
" may ease his people of all future charges and appre-
" hension upon this account."

On Mr. Stanhope's motion, that a supply should be granted to his majesty for this purpose, warm debates arose, in which a great many members of the whig party joined with the tories. It was observed that it was a great misfortune that the king was so little acquainted with the parliamentary proceedings

as with the language of the country, that his message, presented without an estimate of the expense, was unparliamentary and unprecedented, and seemed to have been penned by some foreign minister ; that it was surprising, and even unaccountable, that a nation so lately the terror of France and Spain, should now seem so terrified by such an inconsiderable enemy as the king of Sweden. After several successive debates, the resolution for a supply was carried by a majority of four votes only, which gave the king some uneasiness ; and as this great opposition chiefly proceeded from a party of which lord Townshend was said to be the head, he received that very evening a letter from Mr. Stanhope, informing him that his majesty had no further occasion for his services as lord lieutenant of Ireland. The next morning Walpole waited upon the king to resign his places of first commissioner of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer. The king shewed an extreme regret to part with him, and returned the seals no less than ten times to him, but he laid them again and again upon the table, saying, that it would be impossible for him to serve faithfully his majesty with those ministers to whom he had lately given his favour. Sunderland and Addison were appointed secretaries of state. Mr. Stanhope was made first commissioner of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer. He moved, that the supply voted upon the late message should be fixed at 250,000*l.* which motion was carried.

The principal business of this session was the reduction of the national debt, amounting to 47,268,883*l.* 1*s.* 2½*d.* out of which 16,168,160*l.* 11*s.* 2½*d.* consisting of long and short annuities, could not be redeemed unless by offering to the proprietors such conditions as they should think proper to accept ; the rest consisted of debts provided for by parliament, with an interest of so much per cent. These

might be redeemed either by reimbursing the capital to such proprietors as insisted upon money, or by offering new terms, which, if accepted by the proprietors, were to be deemed an actual redemption of the first debt, as if it had been paid off in ready money.

As the foundation of the scheme for reducing the national debt was built upon paying off the principal and interest to such creditors as would not be satisfied with any other terms, money was to be provided for this purpose, and after many conferences with the money corporations, the bank agreed to furnish two millions and a half, and the South Sea two millions, or as much as should be called for ; and for the money advanced these companies were to have annuities at five per cent. Three bills were accordingly brought in and passed into laws ; namely, the General Fund Act, the Bank Act, and the South Sea Act. The bill respecting the General Fund enacted, that proprietors who were willing to accept five per cent. redeemable annuities in lieu of their lottery orders, should signify their option by subscribing ; and that such as were willing to receive their principal and interest in ready money should likewise declare their option in writing.

By the Bank act the governors and company declared themselves willing to reduce to five per cent. the interest of several sums they were in advance for the government, for some of which they received six per cent. and for the rest above seven per cent. interest. By the same act the bank agreed to advance a sum, not exceeding two millions and a half, towards discharging the national debt, if wanted, on condition that they should have five per cent. for as much as they might advance, redeemable by parliament.

By the South Sea act the company agreed to

reduce in the same proportion the interest they received from government for their stock; and it was enacted that the company should continue a corporation until the redemption of their annuity, towards which no less than a million should be paid at a time. They were also required to advance a sum not exceeding two millions, towards discharging the principal and interest due on the four lottery funds of the 9th and 10th years of queen Anne.

The sums which these two companies agreed to advance were never asked for, as no money was demanded by the creditors, except very small sums, amounting in the whole to 471*l.* 4*s.* and annuities at the rate of five per cent. were granted upon a principal of about 25,869,247*l.* the amount of the national debt at that time redeemed or reduced.

In the General Fund act there is a clause which applies to discharging the principal and interest of such national debts as were incurred before the 25th of September last, all saving or surplus in the appropriated funds, which must arise from the redemptions or reductions provided for by that act, the first by which a sinking fund was constituted for the discharge of national debts.

Lord Oxford, who had now remained almost two years a prisoner in the tower, petitioned to be brought to his trial. The 18th day of June was appointed, and afterwards prolonged to the 24th on the demand of the commons. At the appointed time the peers repaired to Westminster hall. The commons were assembled as a committee of the whole house; the king with the royal family and the foreign ministers were seated in boxes. The earl of Oxford was brought to the bar, the articles of impeachment, his answers, and the replication of the commons were read. Lord Harcourt having then signified that he had a motion to make, the lords retired to their own house. There he repre-

sented that a considerable time would be unnecessarily consumed in going through all the articles of impeachment; that if the commons would make good the two articles for high treason, the earl of Oxford would forfeit both his life and estate, and there would be an end of the matter; whereas, to proceed on the method proposed by the commons, would draw the trial on to a prodigious length. He therefore moved that judgment should be first given upon the articles of high treason. The motion being carried produced a dispute between the two houses. The commons, at a conference, declared that it was their undoubted privilege to impeach a peer either for treason or a misdemeanour, or to mix the accusation as they thought proper. The lords asserted that it was a right inherent in every court of justice to direct such methods of proceeding as it should think fit to be observed in all causes under its cognizance. The commons demanded a free conference, which was refused; the dispute grew warm. The lords sent a message to the lower house, importing that they intended presently to proceed on lord Oxford's trial. The commons disregarded this information and refused to attend. Soon after the lords repairing to Westminster hall, and commanding the earl to be brought forth, made a proclamation for his accusers to appear and make good their impeachment against him. After this the court sat perfectly silent during about a quarter of an hour as if expecting the commons should appear; they then adjourned to their house, where the question that the earl should be acquitted passed after some debate.

The accusation of high treason against lord Oxford was so frivolous, that his life was in no manner of danger; but he probably owed the security of his title and fortune, not only to the dispute between the two houses, but particularly to the late change

in the administration, as by it he was delivered from the persecution of Walpole, and numbered in the upper house many peers of the whig party who now joined with the tories. The commons, however, to express their sense of his demerit, presented an address to the king, desiring that his majesty would be pleased to except the earl of Oxford out of the intended act of grace, that they might be at liberty to proceed against him in a parliamentary way. The king complied with their demand, and forbade the earl to appear at court; but this instance of intended severity proved a signal though unintentional favour, as an act of grace upon an accusation of high treason would have fixed on Oxford's name a stigma, which was finally rubbed off by the acquittal he obtained in the upper house; the more so, that there remained no regular parliamentary way for a new prosecution on the same articles of impeachment.

The king having given his assent to the act of grace, and to all the bills that were ready, closed the session, July 15th.

A Spanish army of 6000 men, under the command of the marquis de Leede, invades Sardinia, and in less than two months conquers the whole kingdom.

The king and the regent of France being guarantees of the neutrality of Italy, pursuant to the treaty of Utrecht, concert measures with the Imperial minister for an accommodation between the emperor and the king of Spain on such terms as should be equally advantageous to both, supply the defects of the treaties of Utrecht and Baden, and establish on a more solid basis the tranquillity of Europe. The abbé Dubois comes over to London. Lord Stanhope is sent to Madrid, and lord Cadogan to the Hague. These negotiations gave birth to the famous treaty called the Quadruple Alliance, which

was concluded the next year between the emperor, France, and England. Holland some time after acceded to it. It was agreed that the emperor should renounce all pretensions to the crown of Spain (a point king Philip had much at heart), and part with Sardinia to the duke of Savoy, in lieu of which the duke was to surrender Sicily to the emperor. The succession to the duchies of Tuscany, Parma, Placentia, which the queen of Spain claimed by inheritance, as princess of the house of Farneze, was to be settled on her eldest son, in case the present possessors should die without male issue. Philip, dissatisfied with this partition, continued to make formidable preparations by sea and land. The king having, in concert with the regent of France, vainly interposed his admonitions, ordered a strong squadron to be equipped with all possible expedition.

On the 3d of November the princess was delivered of a son, whose baptism occasioned an unhappy difference between the father and the grandfather. The former had designed the duke of York, bishop of Osnaburgh, the king's brother, to be one of the godfathers with his majesty. But when the ceremony took place, the duke of Newcastle, not as a proxy, but in his own name, stood godfather with the king. The prince, who had not been personally acquainted with it, and considered it as an intrigue of the duke, expressed his resentment to him in very warm terms, which being reported to the king, his majesty sent his commands to the prince to confine himself within his own apartments till he received farther orders, and afterwards signified his pleasure that he should quit the palace of St. James, where, however, the children were detained. All peers and peeresses, all privy counsellors and their wives, were forewarned, that all persons who should go to see the prince and princess of Wales, should have no access to his majesty's presence;

besides, such as enjoyed places or employments under both the king and prince, were obliged to quit the service of one of them.

The parliament met on the 21st day of November, and the king declared in his speech that he had reduced the army to very near one half since the beginning of the last session. After the usual addresses of thanks, the commons proceeded to take into consideration the estimates and accounts; 10,000 men were voted for the sea service at 4*l.* a month each; and 224,857*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* for the ordinary of the navy. The number of standing forces was fixed, after warm debates, at 16,947 effective men. Mr. Shippon, in the course of the debate, having said, "that the second paragraph of the king's speech seemed rather to be calculated for the meridian of Germany than for Great Britain, and that it was a great misfortune that the king was a stranger to the English language and constitution;" these expressions, which Mr. Shippon refused to retract or to extenuate, were considered as a scandalous invective against the king's person and government, and his confinement to the tower was voted by a great majority.

An attempt was made about this time to lower the value of guineas, on account of the great scarcity of silver coin, chiefly occasioned by the exportation of silver and the importation of gold; the overvaluation of which, in the current coins of Great Britain, had occasioned a clandestine trade, carried on by the Dutch, Hamburgers, and other foreigners, in concert with the Jews, which consisted in exporting silver coin and importing gold, which being coined into guineas, produced fifteen pence profit by every guinea, that is, more than six per cent.; and as these returns might be made five or six times a-year, considerable sums were got, to the prejudice of Great Britain, who was thereby drained

of silver and overstocked with gold. After an unsuccessful trial for lowering the value of guineas, the two houses, taking into consideration a remarkable representation of the celebrated Isaac Newton to the lords of the treasury, resolved that the standard of the gold and silver coins of the kingdom should not be altered in fineness, weight, or denomination, and they ordered a bill to be brought in to prevent the melting down of the silver coin. (*Tindal's History of England*, vol. xix. p. 177.)

Ann. 1718.

The judges are consulted on two questions in dispute between the king and prince of Wales; the first was, whether the care of the education of the royal family belonged of right to the king? The other was, whether the king could retain, for the maintenance of the children, some part of the 100,000*l.* granted by parliament to the prince of Wales? The judges were most of them for the affirmative on the first point; but they were divided upon the second, in such a manner, however, as seemed to favour the prince. This consultation proved fruitless; the prince left the education of his children to the king, but refused to contribute to the expense.

About this time, one James Shephard, a youth of eighteen, apprentice to a coach-maker, and who seemed fitter for Bedlam than Newgate, sent a letter to a non-juring clergyman whom he never knew before, and to whom he proposed a scheme for assassinating king George. He was immediately apprehended and brought to his trial. He did not hesitate to acknowledge the truth of what had been deposed against him, and maintained that there was no harm in it, nor any guilt in the fact if

committed; upon this he was condemned and executed.

The king condescends to permit his being chosen governor of the South-Sea Company, as he had been pleased to be a proprietor in their stock.

A bill is brought in for vesting the forfeited estates in Great Britain and Ireland in trustees, to be sold for the use of the public; and for giving relief to lawful creditors, by determining the claims; and for the more effectual bringing into the respective exchequers the rents and profits of the estates till sold.

The king signifies by a message to the house of commons, that information he had received from abroad, induced him to think that he should be obliged to exceed the number of men granted this year for the sea service, and desires that the house would provide for such exceeding, which they immediately complied with. The parliament is prorogued March 21st.

Admiral Byng at the head of the English squadron being anchored off Mahon, receives advice, July 23rd, that the Spanish fleet had been seen a month before, steering towards Naples, dispatches messengers to inform the governor of Milan, and the viceroy of Naples, of his being in the Mediterranean, and arrives the 9th of August in view of the Faro of Messina to the inexpressible joy of the people. The Spanish army consisting of about thirty thousand men, commanded by the marquis de Leede, being landed in Sicily in the beginning of July, had made themselves masters of the city and castles of Palermo and of great part of the island, had taken the town of Messina, and were then carrying on the siege of the citadel. Admiral Byng immediately dispatched his first captain with a letter to the Spanish general, acquainting him that he came fully empowered to promote such measures as

might best accommodate all differences between the contending powers. He therefore proposed to him to come to a cessation of arms for two months, in order to give time to the several courts to agree on such resolutions as might restore a lasting peace. The marquis de Leede having rejected the proposition, admiral Byng instantly sailed, intending to go before Messina, and met in his way the Spanish fleet lying by and drawn into a line of battle off cape Passaro, about six leagues distance from the shore. But when the admiral came up near to them, they abandoned their order of battle, and falling into confusion and uncertainty whether to resist or fly, they became an easy prey, and were all taken except three men of war and as many frigates which escaped.

The parliament met November 11th; the king in his speech, mentioned the alliance he had concluded with the two greatest princes of Europe, who were bound to support the succession of the crown in his family. He also acquainted them that the Spaniards having rejected all amicable proposals, and broken through the most solemn engagements obtained in favour of the commerce of Great Britain, he had found it necessary to check their progress, and was convinced that a British parliament would enable him to resent the ill-treatment of the Spaniards as became his majesty. A motion was made in both houses for addresses approving of the king's measures with regard to Spain, and after great debates they were agreed to. The commons immediately voted a supply. They allowed for the sea-service 13,500 sailors, and 12,435 men for the land service. These two articles, with the sums voted for making good deficiencies for the ordinary of the navy and other things, amounted to 2,257,581*l.* 19*s.* This supply was raised by a land-tax, the malt-tax, and a lottery for 500,000*l.*

The king of Sweden, Charles XII. penetrates into Norway, a conquest, which would have compensated all his losses in Germany; he takes possession of a great part of that kingdom, but is killed by a cannon ball on visiting the trenches at Fredericshall. The Duchies of Bremen and Verden were thus secured to the house of Hanover.

On the 13th of December, a bill, privately concerted by the ministry with the most eminent dissenters, for repealing the acts against occasional conformity, the growth of schism and some clauses in the corporation and test acts was proposed in the house of lords under the title of *an act for strengthening the protestant interest in these kingdoms*. After a long debate, the house agreed to leave out some clauses concerning the test and corporation acts; then the bill was committed, and afterwards passed. It met with violent opposition in the lower house, but was at last carried by the majority.

The king sends a message to the commons, December 17th, to acquaint them, that having in common with the king of France vainly endeavoured to procure redress for the injuries done to his subjects by the king of Spain, or even to obtain a discontinuance of his unjust hostilities, he had found it necessary to declare war against Spain. After the reading of this message in both houses, an address is voted, to assure the king that they will with the greatest cheerfulness and the utmost vigour assist him in the war till Spain is reduced to agree to reasonable terms of peace, and to such conditions of trade and commerce as the nation is justly entitled to by their several treaties.

On the 29th of December, war was declared and proclaimed in France against Spain.

This rupture raised once more the declining hopes of the pretender, as he found a powerful ally in cardinal Alberony, the prime minister of Spain, where

his credit and influence were no less unlimited than cardinal Richelieu's in France, under the reign of Lewis XIII. The strength of his mind, the boldness of his character, his extensive abilities and dangerous intrigues, were quite adequate to his ambitious views. His present scheme had not a lesser tendency than to revive throughout all Europe the flames of the late general war, and the issue would have answered his expectations, had fortune better seconded his audacious attempts. Conscious that what efforts soever Spain might make, she could never resist at once the emperor and the kings of France and England, Alberony endeavoured to get rid of the two latter by supporting military force with his complots and intrigues against them. France abounded with malcontents, and the regent had many enemies; both had applied to the Spanish court, where the resentment against the duke of Orleans procured them a favourable hearing. Prince Cellamare, the Spanish ambassador at Paris, was ordered to treat with them. The project was to seize the regent in some party of pleasure. The king's person was to be secured, and proper orders were to be issued to the governors of the provinces, to assemble the parliaments, whilst the states of the kingdom should meet, and make a final determination of matters, so as to have the regency of France transferred, if possible, to king Philip, or at least the late king's will executed. The mines were charged and ready to spring, when the regent, receiving positive advice from king George that some attempt was contriving against his person and government, found means, by the vigilance and activity of the police, to discover and seize the papers and principal accomplices in the plot. Alberony had set on foot at the same time a secret negotiation with the king of Sweden for the support of the jacobites and mal-contents in England and the re-

storation of the pretender, who went to Spain to settle with Alberony the plan of operations. He was magnificently received at Madrid, where he entered in one of the king's coaches attended by the guards, and was conducted to the palace of Buen-Retiro. The next day he was visited by the king, the royal family, and the grandees, and complimented as king of Great Britain. Upon his arrival, a squadron of ten men of war with 6000 regular troops on board, mostly Irish, with arms for ten or twelve thousand men, was prepared for him. The duke of Ormond was at the head of the enterprise, with the title of captain-general of the king of Spain. He was to publish in proper places in his catholic majesty's name, a manifesto, importing, that he sent part of his land and sea forces to serve as auxiliaries to king James, for the restoration of whom he was determined to use all his power; that he hoped Providence would favour so just a cause; but that the fear of ill-success might not hinder any person from declaring readily for him, he promised a secure retreat in his dominions to all that should join king James, and in case they were forced to leave their country, he declared that every sea or land officer should have the same rank as he enjoyed in Great Britain, and the soldiers should be received and treated like his own.

Ann. 1719,

These preparations had not been so secret as to prevent king George receiving timely notice of them to take the necessary precautions. The duke of Orleans, in return for the same favour, had acquainted him with all the particulars he could discover. A proclamation was issued against the duke of Ormond and the other lords that were with him; a reward of 5000*l.* was promised for seizing the

duke, and of 1000*l.* for each of the rest ; some forces were ordered into the north and the west of England ; the states-general had notice to have 2000 men ready to transport into England when occasion required, and the naval armament against the Spanish squadron was hastened as much as possible.

George having informed both houses of parliament of these discoveries and transactions, they promised to support him against all his enemies, and desired he would augment his forces by sea and land, assuring him they would make good the extraordinary expences. Two thousand men were landed from Holland, and six battalions of Imperialists from the Austrian Netherlands.

A proposal from the South-Sea Company for advancing 700,000*l.* to government, having been accepted by the commons, it was proposed by some of the members to destine the sum to the growing necessities of the government. But in a grand committee of ways and means, it was resolved that that sum should be applied to the sinking fund.

The duke of Ormond sailed from Cadiz and had reached Cape Finisterre when his fleet was dispersed and disabled by a violent storm. Two frigates, however, arrived in Scotland with some field officers, 300 Spaniards, and arms for 2000 men. They were joined by a small body of Highlanders, and took possession of Donan castle. They were attacked by a few regular forces and driven from one eminence to another till night, when the highlanders dispersed, and the next morning the Spaniards surrendered themselves prisoners of war.

It was moved in the house of lords, February 28th, that the peerage of Great Britain might be so settled, that the number of English peers might not be enlarged beyond six above the present num-

ber, and that instead of sixteen elective peers in Scotland, 25 might be made hereditary on the part of that kingdom. During the debate, a message was received from the king, intimating that he was willing that his prerogative should not stand in the way of settling the state of the British peerage he had so much at heart. It appeared that the number of peers at the accession of James I. amounted to 59 only, but at this time their number amounted to 178, besides the Scotch peers. James I. had created 62, Charles I. 59, Charles II. 64, James II. 8, William and Mary, 30, queen Anne, 30, king George, 20 ; total 332, from which 154 were extinct.

An address of thanks for the king's message was voted, and the judges were ordered to prepare and bring in the bill. This measure alarmed the generality of the Scottish peers as well as many English commoners, who saw in the bill the avenues of dignity and title shut up against them, and they exclaimed against it as an encroachment upon the fundamental maxims of the constitution in general, and particularly of the royal prerogative. Treatises and pamphlets were published on both sides of the question ; in short, this bill raised such a clamour, that the lords thought it proper to put off its third reading a fortnight, by which means it was dropped for this session, as four days after the parliament was prorogued.

The king having appointed lords justices to rule the kingdom in his absence, embarks for Holland, May 11th, and proceeds to Hanover, where he concludes a peace with Ulrica, the new queen of Sweden. By this treaty, the duchies of Bremen and Verden are abandoned for ever to the royal and electoral house of Hanover, and the king obliges himself to pay to the queen of Sweden a million of rix-dollars, (250,000*l*.) He likewise meditates a

peace between Sweden and his former allies, the Danes, the Prussians, and the Poles. In the mean time, admiral Byng continued in the Mediterranean, where he powerfully assisted the Imperialists in compelling the Spaniards to evacuate Sicily and Sardinia. During these occurrences in the Mediterranean, the duke of Berwick advanced with the French army to the frontiers of Spain, where he took Fort Passage, and destroyed six ships of war that were on the stocks; then he reduced Fontarabia, St. Sebastian, and Port Antonio in the Bay of Biscay. Lord Cobham, at the head of 4000 men, reduced with little difficulty Vigo and Point-à-Vedra, where they found some brass artillery, small arms, and military stores, with which they returned to England. Captain Johnson, with two ships of war, destroyed the same number of Spanish ships in the port of Ribadeo, so that the naval power of Spain was totally ruined.

Spain, oppressed on all sides, and exhausted by her late unsuccessful efforts, began to think seriously of peace. King Philip's intention was, that the states-general should be mediators; a plan was sent accordingly, and delivered to them December 22nd; but the emperor, the king of England, and the duke of Orleans, having intimated that they would hearken to no peace, as long as Alberony was in place; Philip acquiesced in the necessity of making him a sacrifice, and purchased the tranquillity of his people at the expence of an enterprising minister, who was too constantly unfortunate not to be suspected at least of imprudence. The plan of the court of Madrid was rejected, and nothing less would be accepted but a full accession to the Quadruple Alliance, which was submitted to by the king of Spain.

The king, after six months absence, returned to London, November 14th, more respected than ever, owing to the complete success both of his political

and military measures for the welfare and interest of his dominions, and to establish the peace of Europe.

The parliament meets, November 23rd. The king in his speech expresses his satisfaction at his being enabled by the prosperous issue of his endeavours, to inform them that all Europe as well as Great Britain is upon the point of being delivered from the calamities of war, by the influence of British arms and counsels. He exhorts the commons to concert proper means for lessening the debts of the nation, and concludes with a panegyric upon his own government. The addresses of both houses were full of thanks and congratulations on the success of all his measures. The bill for limiting the peers, which had been dropped by the prorogation, was resumed the third day of this session, passed the house of lords, but was rejected by the house of commons by a majority of 269 against 177.

Ann. 1720.

The king's speech, by recommending to the commons the consideration of proper means for lessening the national debt, had raised a general expectation of some important plan to that effect, and the famous South-Sea scheme, the fatal effects of which brought the national credit to the brink of destruction, now engrossed the attention of the parliament. Since the revolution under king William, the supplies granted by parliament proving insufficient, or requiring too long a time to be collected, the government had been obliged to borrow money at a high interest from several companies of merchants. A wise and successful step towards lessening these redeemable debts had been lately made by giving the several companies the option either of accepting

of lower interest, namely, 5 per cent. or of being paid the principal. All these companies having preferred to accept of the reduced interest, an adequate reduction in the national debt had been the consequence; but it remained to provide for the reduction of the irredeemable annuities created in the reigns of William and Anne for a period of 89, 96, and 99 years, amounting nearly to 800,000*l.* per annum, as no effectual measures could be adopted to lessen the national debt, whilst these annuities remained irredeemable. The South-Sea Company made proposals, tending to effect this liquidation by reducing these debts to a redeemable state. The ministers very much approved the plan, and accordingly laid the business before a committee of the house of commons. Aislabie, the chancellor of the exchequer, having explained this plan, declared, that if it was accepted, the national debt could be liquidated in 26 years. The terms were, that the South-Sea Company would redeem the debts of the nation out of the hands of the private proprietors upon whatever terms they could agree on; and for the interest of these debts thus redeemed, and taken into their own hands, they would be allowed by government for six years, five per cent. interest, which then should be reduced to four per cent. and should at any time be redeemable by parliament.

Mr. Secretary Craggs, who spoke immediately after the chancellor of the exchequer, complimented him on the clear and intelligible manner in which he had explained the business, and taking for granted that every member of the house was ready to accept the proposal according to the scheme which had been so well elucidated, he concluded by observing that no other regular motion could be made than that the chairman should report progress. It was resolved, however, by the majority, that with

a view of obtaining the best bargain for the nation, every other company, or any society of men, might be also at full liberty to deliver in their proposals. In consequence of these resolutions, the bank of England offered still more advantageous terms, and as it was supposed that considerable benefits would accrue to those whose scheme was accepted, a strong competition prevailed between the bank and the South-Sea Company, who endeavoured to outbid each other. The latter had offered 3,500,000*l.* premium, but the bank having bid 5,500,000*l.* the company gave power to their directors to obtain the preference *cost what it would*, and they succeeded by the offer of paying the enormous sum of 7,567,500*l.* as a gratuity to the public.

This proposal being laid before the house of commons, was warmly opposed by sir Robert Walpole. He displayed with his usual sagacity the fallacy and danger of the South-Sea scheme, and the great difference between it and that of the bank, by shewing that the company being not limited in the price they were to put on the stock made over them, held out a dangerous lure for decoying the unwary to their ruin, by a false prospect of gain; that the whole success of the scheme chiefly depending on the rise of the stock, its fundamental principle was obviously an evil of the greatest magnitude, as it consisted in raising artificially the value of the stock by exciting and keeping up a general infatuation, and by promising dividends out of lands and profits either chimerical or utterly inadequate to the purpose. He dwelt on the miseries and confusion which still prevailed in France from the adoption of similar measures, and he strenuously insisted that if the proposal of the South-Sea Company should be accepted, the rise of their stock and its total amount ought to be limited.

But these wise representations were of no avail, and a bill was ordered to be brought into the house of commons on the plan presented by the South-Sea Company.

While this affair was in agitation, the stock of that company rose from 130 to near 400 in consequence of the commons having rejected a clause to be added to the bill, to fix what share in the capital stock of the company should be vested in those proprietors of the annuities who might voluntarily subscribe; or how many years purchase in money they should receive in subscribing at the choice of the said proprietors.

In the house of lords, the bill was opposed as countenancing the fraudulent and pernicious practice of stock jobbing, and giving an opportunity to foreigners to double and treble the vast sums they had in the public funds, and to realize and withdraw their capital and immense gain to other countries, so that Great Britain would be soon drained of her gold and silver. Earl Cowper compared this fatal act to the Trojan horse, which was ushered in and received with great pomp and acclamations of joy, but was contrived for treachery and destruction. The bill passed, however, without division, and received the royal assent, April 7th.

By this act, the South-Sea Company was authorized to take in by purchase or subscription the irredeemable debts of the nation, stated at 15,057,493*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* at such rates and prices as should be agreed between the company and the respective proprietors without any compulsion on any of them. They were likewise authorized to take in all the redeemable debts amounting to 15,924,218*l.* 12*s.* 10½*d.* either by purchase, by taking subscriptions, or by paying off the creditors. For every annuity part of the long annuities, an adequate addition was to be made to their capital

stock after the rate of twenty years purchase, and for the short annuities, after the rate of fourteen years purchase; as to the redeemable debts that they should take in, by purchase, subscriptions, or paying off, an addition of 100*l.* was to be made to their capital stock for every 100*l.* of the principal monies so taken in.

For enabling the company to raise the sum of 7,500,000*l.* which they were obliged to pay to government, they were empowered to make calls for money from their members, or open books of subscriptions, or grant annuities redeemable by the company, or by any other method they should think fit in a general court.

When this bill passed, it was expected the stock would have greatly raised, but it happened on the contrary, that the day after, it fell from 310 to 290. In order to raise it, a rumour was spread that earl Stanhope had received overtures in France to exchange Gibraltar and Port Mahon for some places in Peru for the security and an enlargement of the English trade in the South-Sea. This stock-jobbing trick had such an effect in Exchange Alley, that on the 12th of April, the directors opened their books for a subscription of a million, at the rate of 300*l.* for every 100*l.* capital of their stock. Such was the concourse of persons of all ranks, that this first subscription was found to amount to above two millions of original stock. It was to be paid in five payments of 60*l.* each for one share of 100*l.* In a few days the stock advanced to 340*l.* To raise it still higher, it was declared in a general court of the directors, April 21st, that the Midsummer dividend should be ten per cent. These resolutions answering the end designed, the directors further improved the infatuation of the monied men by opening their books for a second subscription of one million at 400*l.* per cent.; and in a few

hours, no less than one million and a half was subscribed at that rate.

On the 19th of May, the directors thought fit to settle the terms and prices for the long and short annuities which had been subscribed; and the stock being that day 375*l.* per cent. it was resolved to allow for every 100*l.* per annum of the long annuities thirty-two years purchase, and for the short annuities, 17 years purchase. Towards the latter end of May, that stock, which was at about 550*l.* rose on a sudden so prodigiously, that on the 2nd of June it came up to 890*l.* But many cautious persons wishing to take this opportunity for securing their great profits, there appeared the next day so many sellers in the Alley, that by three o'clock in the afternoon the stock fell to 640*l.* The chief directors of the company alarmed at it, set their agents to work, by whose artful management the stock rose again the same evening to 750*l.* and continued the same with some small fluctuation till the closing of the company's books, June 22nd, when some new contrivance having put the stock-jobbers in good humour, the company opened their books for a third subscription at the rate of 1000*l.* for each 100*l.* capital stock to be paid in ten equal payments, one in hand and the other nine half-yearly. The lists were so soon and so much filled, that the directors enlarged this subscription to four millions capital stock, which at that price amounted to forty millions sterling. And what is more strange, these last subscriptions were sold at above 2000*l.* before the end of June.

The sanguine and credulous cupidity which marked this period, was not confined to the South-Sea scheme; the whole nation intoxicated, became stock-jobbers and projectors. Every day produced new projects for making rapid fortunes, the greater part of which were so absurd and chimerical that

the number of speculators deceived and duped by these bubbles exceeds credibility. These alluring and fraudulent schemes received their first check from the power to which they owed their birth. The South-Sea Company, desirous to monopolise all the money of the speculators, obtained writs of *scire facias* against the conductors of bubbles, and thus put an end to them. But in opening the eyes of the deluded multitude, they awoke them from the golden dreams which covered their own deceptions. It would be too tedious to enumerate the various frauds and scandalous artifices they employed with little or no success to enhance the value of the stock, and support their tottering edifice. Suspicion once excited was not to be suppressed, and the public, no longer decoyed by pompous declarations and promises of dividends, which they knew could never be realized, declined all further purchases of stock, which in less than three weeks lost 60% per cent. so as to involve in distress and ruin those who had bought at large premiums.

When this calamity was arrived at a most alarming height, the assistance of the bank was looked on as the only resource, and sir Robert Walpole was eagerly solicited to use his interest with the governors to persuade them to accept a proposal made by the South-Sea Company to circulate a number of their bonds. At this awful crisis, the clamour of general despair was irresistible, and the bank, though with great reluctance, arising from a natural dread of being involved in the same ruin, was at length induced to listen to the proposals, and even to circulate three millions of South-Sea bonds for one year on certain conditions. The report of this intended aid, produced a temporary rise in the South-Sea stock; but the public was so terrified, and the situation of the South-Sea Company so desperate, that

any community of interest between the two companies was considered as fatal to both. In consequence, such heavy demands were made on the bank, that the governors refused to abide by the terms of their agreement with the South-Sea Company, whose stock continued to dwindle with the greatest rapidity. The final issue of this too memorable catastrophe will be hereafter mentioned; as it is now necessary to resume the interrupted narrative of the events of the year, which would have rendered hardly intelligible the long and complicated account of the South-Sea scheme had they been interwoven with it.

The Royal and London Assurance Companies, for assurance of ships and merchandize at sea, and for lending money upon bottomry, are erected June 11th, and pay for their charters 600,000*l.* to the king towards the discharge of the civil list.

The same day the parliament is prorogued; his majesty declares at the same time his intention of visiting this summer his dominions in Germany. Upon the rising of the parliament, the king held a great council, in which he named the lords justices who were to govern during his absence. They were the same who had been appointed last year; to whom were added lord Townshend, who was declared likewise president of the council, and the duke of Devonshire.

Sir Robert Walpole, whose eminent abilities as well as the public distresses called him again to the assistance of the administration, had been appointed a few days before paymaster-general of the forces. Previously, however, to this arrangement, he had, in conjunction with the duke of Devonshire, been the principal means of effecting a reconciliation between the king and the prince of Wales, whose misunderstanding had arisen to such a degree as to threaten a disturbance of public tranquillity.

His royal highness wrote, as agreed on, a submissive letter to the king, requesting permission to wait upon his majesty. He was accordingly admitted to a private conference. On his return from the palace to Leicester-house, where he had taken up his residence, he was, by the king's command, attended by a party of the yeomen of the guards and of the horse guards, and the foot guards began also to mount the guard at his house. From that time the father and son appeared to be perfectly reconciled. The king embarked at Greenwich, June 15th, and landed the next morning at Helvoetsluys.

The state of the South-Sea scheme had, at his majesty's departure, the most promising appearance of prosperity; but three months were scarcely elapsed when the ebb of this swollen fluctuating credit returned with greater violence than it flowed, and carried every thing before it with such rapidity, that the interference of the administration and of the directors of the great companies jointly and separately to stop it proved ineffectual. Express after express was sent to Hanover, to inform the king the state of affairs, which was so alarming, that his majesty set out for England sooner than he intended, and arrived at London, November 11th. The South-Sea stock, which was then 200*l.* fell again to 135*l.* on account of the prorogation of parliament from the 25th of November to the 8th of December; but it rose again to 210*l.* on a report that the ministry had agreed with the principal directors of the South-Sea, the bank, and East-India Companies, upon a project for the restoration of the public credit; an object upon which the king expressed the deepest concern in his speech to both houses, and earnestly recommended them to consider of the most effectual and speedy means for remedying the critical state of the nation. The causes and extent of this calamity are sufficiently

known by what has been already said ; it now remains to elucidate the means which enabled Great Britain to emerge in great measure from the abyss into which she had been precipitated by an immoderate thirst for riches, and an unaccountable infatuation.

Sir Robert Walpole, who had acquired great popularity by his constant opposition to the South-Sea scheme, and by having predicted the evils which were now severely felt, was called forth by the public voice, as the only man who could save the nation from impending destruction ; and he engaged in the task with that ardour and assiduity which marked his character. He adopted a plan for engrafting a certain portion of the South-Sea stock in the bank and East-India Company. The king and cabinet, as well as the principal monied men of the nation having approved the scheme, he submitted it to parliament, where it excited many violent altercations, but Walpole's prudence enabled him at last to bring gradually the majority of the house to reason and moderation.

A committee was appointed, December 9th, to take into consideration the state of public credit ; but it was moved and resolved on the 12th, that the directors should forthwith lay before the house an account of all their proceedings, and it was insisted with uncommon animation on the necessity of an immediate inquiry, as it was absurd to attempt a cure before knowing the nature and extent of the disorder. This motion was dropped, however, at the representation of Walpole, who observed, that public credit being in a bleeding condition, a speedy remedy should be applied, and therefore any delay would be highly dangerous ; the main object of his scheme was to facilitate the reduction of the national debt by retaining that part of the South-Sea act which had made the annui-

ties for long terms redeemable ; and the South-Sea scheme had happily answered this salutary purpose without a breach of parliamentary faith. He accordingly maintained with great strength of argument, that to annul, as it was proposed, the contracts made by the company, as well as declaring the subscriptions void, and restoring the proprietors of the public debts to their former state, would not only ruin the South-Sea Company, but aggravate the present misfortunes ; and he added, that if any injustice was done to the subscribers, they were at liberty to seek relief by law. This opinion being sanctioned by a majority of 232 against 88, he brought forward a scheme, which was in substance to engraft nine millions of stock into the bank of England, and the same sum into the East-India Company on certain conditions, the remaining twenty millions were to be left to the South-Sea Company.

Ann. 1721.

After a few objections, Walpole's plan was adopted, with various amendments. The chief management of the business was committed to him, and the bill having passed both houses received the royal assent. It appeared, however, in the debates, that the commons were divided in their opinions ; one party, headed by Walpole, being for applying immediately a remedy to the calamity occasioned by the mismanagement of the South-Sea scheme, and the other for inquiring into the causes of the present misfortunes, and for punishing the authors with all the severity of the law, as the only means to satisfy the injured nation, calling aloud for vengeance. The first party prevailed for a time, but when the commons met after the recess, the other party then gained considerable strength. There-

fore the ingrafting scheme was not carried into execution, and was superseded by the bill which passed at the close of the session for restoring public credit; yet it produced the beneficial effect of calming the general discontents by encouraging hopes of relief from the efforts of parliament. In the mean time, another bill was enacted into a law, for restraining all the officers and accountants for the South-Sea Company from quitting the kingdom till the end of the next session of parliament, and for discovering their estates and effects so as to prevent them from being transported or alienated. A select committee was chosen by ballot to examine all the books of papers and proceedings relating to the execution of the South-Sea-act.

The lords discovered the same eagerness to prosecute this inquiry; the deputy-governors, directors, and officers of the South-Sea Company were examined at their bar, and a bill was brought in, disabling them from enjoying any office in that company, or in the bank, and East-India Company. Knight, the treasurer, who was entrusted with the principal secrets of the South-Sea affair, thought fit to withdraw himself from the kingdom. A proclamation was issued to apprehend him. The select committee, at the same time informed the house of commons, that they had already discovered a train of the deepest villany and fraud that Hell ever contrived to ruin a nation, and previous to laying it before the house they insisted on the necessity of securing the persons and seizing the papers of some of the directors and principal officers of the company, which was immediately executed; four among them who were members of the commons, were expelled the house and apprehended, as well as Aislaby, who relinquished his employments of chancellor of the exchequer and lord of the treasury. Orders were given to remove all directors of the South-Sea Com-

pany from any places they possessed under government. It was discovered that large portions of the stock had been given to several persons in the administration and in the house of commons, for promoting the passing of the South-Sea act; that the directors, under pretence of keeping up the price of the stock, having ordered great quantities of it to be bought for the company when it was very high, had in such cases used clandestine means to have their own stock sold to the company.

It was observed in the debates, that the government of the best princes was sometimes rendered intolerable by bad ministers. Earl Stanhope conceiving that this reflection was aimed at him, undertook to vindicate the ministry, and spoke with such vehemence as produced a violent head-ache, which obliged him to retire. He seemed to recover, but next day became lethargic, and being seized with a suffocation, instantly expired. The king deeply regretted the death of this favourite minister at such a critical juncture, and he appointed lord Townshend to fill his place. Mr. Craggs, another secretary of state, died a few days after of the small pox.

The treasurer, Knight, was arrested at Tirlemont by the vigilance of the British legation at Brussels, and confined in the citadel of Antwerp. Application was made to the court of Vienna, that he should be delivered to such persons as might be appointed to receive him. But the states of Brabant insisted upon their privileges, that no person apprehended for crimes in their territory should be tried in any other country. New instances were made to the emperor, and during the negotiation Knight escaped from the citadel.

It was found likewise by the select committee, that before any subscription could be made, a fictitious stock of 574,000*l*. had been disposed of by

the directors, to facilitate the passing the bill ; and that a great part of this sum had been distributed among the earl of Sunderland, the secretary Craggs, the duchess of Kendal, the countess of Platen and her two nieces, Mr. Craggs senior, and Mr. Aislabbie, chancellor of the exchequer. In consequence of this report, the house came to several resolutions of a just severity against the directors and officers of the company, and prepared a bill for the relief of the unhappy sufferers. Mr. Stanhope, one of the secretaries of the treasury, charged with having large quantities of stock and subscriptions, obtained a hearing, and was cleared by a majority of three voices. The earl of Sunderland, supported by the whole strength of the ministry, was also declared innocent by the majority ; he however resigned his place of first commissioner of the treasury, which was bestowed upon sir Robert Walpole. The evidence was so strong against Mr. Aislabbie, that the commons resolved he had promoted the destructive execution of the South-Sea scheme, with a view to his own exorbitant profit, and connived with the directors in their pernicious practices to the ruin of the public credit. Mr. Craggs senior died before he underwent the censure of the house ; nevertheless they resolved that he was a notorious accomplice with the treasurer and some of the directors in carrying on their scandalous practices, and therefore that all the estate of which he was possessed from the 1st day of December in the preceding year should be applied to the relief of the victims of their fraud. The directors, pursuant to the order of the house, delivered in inventories of their estates, which were confiscated by act of parliament towards making good the damages sustained by the company after a certain allowance was deducted for each according to his conduct and circumstances. The value of their estates, as given

in upon oath, amounted to above 2,014,000*l.* of which 334,000*l.* was left to the proprietors.

The house now turned their attention to the means of restoring public credit, and of repairing as much as possible the mischief which the South-Sea scheme had produced. They found that the whole capital stock at the end of the year 1720, amounted to above 37,800,000*l.* and the stock allotted to all the proprietors in their several shapes, did not amount to 24,500,000*l.*; the remaining capital stock, being about 13,300,000*l.* belonged to the company in their corporate capacity, and was the profit arising from the execution of the South-Sea scheme, and out of this the present bill enacted, that seven millions should be paid to the creditors. When the parliament discovered the whole extent of calamities and ruin attending numberless families, they resolved that several additions should be made to the stock of the proprietors out of the stock possessed by the company in their own right, and made a particular distribution of stock, which amounted to above 2,200,000*l.* (*Tindal's History, Ann. 1721.*)

The bill for the restoration of public credit, arranged the affairs of the South-Sea Company in such a manner, that five millions out of the seven which the directors had agreed to pay to the creditors were remitted, and two reserved towards the liquidation of the national debt. The incumbrances were partly discharged from the confiscation of the forfeited estates, the credit of their bonds was maintained, and the company was soon in a situation to fulfil its engagements with the public. The proprietors made such loud and repeated complaints on the hardship of depriving them of the two reserved millions, that the parliament afterwards remitted that sum which made an addition of 6*l.* 5*s.* per cent.

Thus the fatal South-Sea scheme was converted

into a national benefit; the distresses are forgotten, and the advantages remain. Although, by the remission of the seven millions to the creditors, the public did not enjoy the immense profits which had been sanguinely expected, yet much greater advantage was derived than is usually supposed; 632,698*l.* of long and short annuities were converted into a redeemable stock, which at this time bears an interest of only 3 per cent. and the interest on the company's capital was reduced, at Midsummer 1727, to 4 per cent. By this the public gained annually 339,691*l.* which, calculated at 25 years purchase, was worth above eight millions. (*Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole, vol. i. p. 269, &c.*) Thus also the properties and interests of all persons concerned with the South-Sea Company were ascertained and settled, and infinite numbers of his majesty's subjects delivered from the apprehensions of vexatious law-suits and prosecutions, and from the further demand of such excessive sums of money as would have sunk and depressed all public and private credit.

The supplies were granted very late this year, and not with the readiness usually manifested on such occasions. The king sent a message to the house of commons, June 16th, importing that he had agreed to pay a subsidy to the crown of Sweden, and hoped they would enable him to fulfil his engagements. This subsidy, amounting to 72,000*l.* gave occasion to bitter censures upon the last treaty with Sweden, which was represented as contrary to the treaties subsisting between Great Britain and Denmark. Notwithstanding these arguments the Swedish supply was granted. This message was soon followed by another, which informed the house that the debts of the civil list, amounting to 550,000*l.* his majesty desired to be empowered to raise that sum upon the revenue, proposing to re-

imburse it by a deduction of sixpence per pound from all the salaries, wages, pensions, and other payments made from the crown. A bill was prepared for this purpose, though not without opposition. The session was closed August 10th.

Whilst the parliament was employed in settling affairs at home, the king continued and ended with success the negotiations abroad. The treaty of peace between Great Britain and Spain was signed at Madrid, June 13th. It renewed, with regard to commerce, all the regulations agreed on by former treaties. A mutual restoration was stipulated of all that had been seized and confiscated on both sides. His Britannic majesty, in particular, was to restore all the Spanish ships taken in the action near Sicily, with the guns, rigging, &c. or the value of them if they were sold. The other difficulties and pretensions were referred to the congress of Cambray. To these terms was added a secret article, by which the king promised not to interfere any longer in the affairs of Italy; and the king of Spain made an absolute cession of Gibraltar and Port Mahon. A treaty of defensive alliance between Great Britain, France, and Spain, was signed on the same day at Madrid, each of the allies was to furnish any of them who should be attacked, 8000 foot and 4000 horse, or an equivalent in money and ships. One of the principal motives of this alliance was to maintain the treaty which was to be made at Cambray between the emperor and the king of Spain. The states-general were to be invited to accede to this alliance. The congress at Cambray was opened, but the Imperial ministers talked in so high and decisive strains, that there was no possibility of treating with them, and never was congress more fruitless.

On the 15th of April the princess of Wales was delivered of a son, who was named William Au-

gustus, and afterwards created duke of Cumberland.

The pope, Clement XI. died in the month of May, after having sat above 20 years in the papal chair. In his last moments he sent for the pretender, for whom he had ever expressed great kindness, and when he was come, his holiness recommended to the cardinals then in his bedchamber, the three following points : 1. To let the pretender reside constantly in the palace which he had assigned him. 2. To continue the pension granted to him, that he may be always enabled to support the royal dignity till he recovers his kingdom. 3. To oblige the successor in the holy see to assist the pretender in all things against the attempts of his enemies.

The parliament meet October 19th. The commons vote 7000 seamen and 14,294 effective men for guards and garrisons for the year 1722. At this period, John Law, the famous projector of the Mississippi scheme, the fatal consequences of which had obliged him to leave France, returned to England. He had, many years ago, the misfortune of killing a gentleman in a duel, but having received the benefit of the king's clemency, and the appeal lodged by the relations of the deceased being taken off, he was come over to plead his majesty's pardon. He was brought up to London by a lord, with whom he had negociated for great parcels of South-Sea stock. The king favoured him with a private audience, and he was visited by great numbers of persons of distinction. These circumstances concurring with the indignation and resentment lately excited by the South-Sea scheme, gave so much umbrage, that a day was appointed in the house of lords, to consider if such a dangerous man was to be permitted to reside in England ; but as there was no law to keep an Englishman out of his country, and

as Mr. Law was a subject of Great Britain, the affair was dropped; and he pleaded his pardon at the King's Bench according to form. The quakers petitioned the commons, that the words, "*In the presence of Almighty God,*" might be omitted in their solemn affirmations, and an act was passed agreeably to their demand.

Ann. 1722.

The business of the session being over, the king put an end to it, March 7th, by a prorogation; but on the 10th a proclamation was published to dissolve the parliament, and three days after another for calling a new one.

Soon after the dissolution of parliament died Charles Spencer, duke of Sunderland, whose abilities as a minister were indisputable; but who incurred great popular odium by the connections he was supposed to have with the directors of the South-Sea scheme. His death was followed, two months after, by that of his father-in-law, the duke of Marlborough, whose faculties had been for some time greatly impaired.

The elections for members of parliament were carried on with great zeal on both sides, but the majority of the elected was more clearly in favour of the court, as was likewise that of the sixteen Scots peers. In the beginning of May the king had full information of a conspiracy formed against his person and government in favour of the pretender; and it was said that the first notice of it came from the duke of Orleans. A camp was immediately marked out in Hyde Park, to which the guards marched the next day. Orders were issued to all military officers to repair to their respective commands. Lieutenant-general Macartney was despatched to Ireland, to bring over some troops from

thence into the west of England. Messengers were sent to Scotland to secure some suspected persons; and the sates-general were desired to keep in readiness the guaranteed troops, for their being sent into England in case of necessity. The king of Spain, at the instance of the British ambassador, sent directions to all the ports in his dominions, to hinder the embarking of any persons suspected of having intercourse with the pretender, and not to suffer any Irish officers to quit the dominions of Spain without particular licence. The king's intended journey to Hanover was laid aside, and the court was removed to Kensington. Great numbers of persons of all ranks were seized and committed to prison, after being previously examined before a committee of the council. The bishop of Rochester, the earl of Orrery, the lords North and Grey, were committed to the Tower on suspicion of high treason.

The new parliament being assembled, his majesty made them acquainted with the nature of the conspiracy. Such addresses were presented by both houses as the fears and attachment of the majority might suggest on such an occasion. The *habeas corpus* act was suspended for a whole year. As a further proof of the plot, the king transmitted to the house of lords by a message an original, in writing, of a declaration of the pretender, signed by him at Lucca, on the 20th day of September, and one of the printed copies of it, which were distributed throughout England. It appeared to be a proposal addressed to the subjects of Great Britain and Ireland, as well as to all foreign princes and states; and in which he offered, that if king George would relinquish to him the throne of Great Britain, he would in return bestow upon him the title of king in his native dominions, and invite all other states to confirm it; he likewise promised to leave to king George his succession to the British

dominions secure, whenever, in due course, his natural right should take place. The lords unanimously resolved that this insolent and traitorous libel should be burned by the hands of the common hangman; and the commons concurred in the resolution. Both houses joined in an address, assuring his majesty that they were determined to support his title to the crown with their lives and fortunes. In the mean time two bills were passed, one for raising 100,000*l.* upon the real and personal estates of all papists, towards defraying the expences of the late rebellion and disorder; and another, obliging all persons refusing or neglecting to take the oaths appointed for the security of the king's person and government, to register their names and real estates.

On the 21st of November, Layer, a young counsellor of the Temple, accused of inlisting men in Essex for the pretender's service, was brought to his trial, declared guilty, and sentenced to death. He was reprieved from time to time, in hopes that he would make a full discovery of the plot, but he waived it, and was at last executed in the month of May following.

Ann. 1723.

According to the report of the committee, it appeared from the examination of Layer and others, that a design had been formed by persons of distinction at home, in conjunction with traitors abroad, for placing the pretender on the throne; that their first intention was to procure a body of foreign troops to invade the kingdom at the time of the late elections; but that the conspirators, being disappointed in this expectation, had resolved to make an attempt at the time of the king's departure for Hanover, by the help of such officers and soldiers

as could pass unobserved into England, under the command of the duke of Ormond, who was to have landed in the river with a great quantity of arms, at which time the Tower was to have been seized ; that this scheme being also defeated by the vigilance of the government, they deferred their enterprise till the breaking up of the camp, and in the mean time employed their agents to corrupt the army ; that it appeared from several letters and circumstances, that the duke of Ormond and the lords now confined in the Tower were concerned in this conspiracy, as well as the bishop of Rochester ; and that they had many agents among the non-juring clergymen. Bills were brought in against two of them, who were, by these acts, to be kept in close custody during his majesty's pleasure. A motion was made for a bill of the same nature against the bishop of Rochester, importing that he should be deprived of his office and benefice, and banished the kingdom for ever. The bill being passed and sent up to the house of lords, the bishop was brought to his trial before them, and though many members of the house warmly embraced his defence, his banishment was not only confirmed, but in case he returned he was to suffer death, as well as all persons who should correspond with him during his exile.

The king prorogues the parliament, May 27th, and sets out for his German dominions, after having appointed lords justices, as usual, to govern in his absence. The prince of Wales, who was now in his 41st year, was still excluded. His majesty, before his departure, admitted the imprisoned lords and gentlemen to bail ; ordered the bishop of Rochester to be conveyed to the continent, and granted a pardon to lord Bolingbroke. At the same time, in consideration of Sir Robert Walpole's services, his son was created baron of Walpole, in the county of Norfolk.

George arrived at Hanover attended by the two secretaries, lords Townshend and Carteret, whose abilities as negotiators he very much esteemed and wanted now more than ever, on account of the new turn affairs had taken on the continent. A treaty was negotiating between the czar and the king of Sweden, favourable to the duke of Holstein's pretensions to Sleswick, the possession of which George, as elector of Hanover, had guaranteed to Denmark; his majesty had therefore to apprehend that his new acquisition of Bremen and Verden, would turn very precarious. The king of Spain proposed new treaties to England, but insisted upon the restitution of Gibraltar and Port Mahon, as well as upon the king's openly declaring against the Imperial East India Company lately established at Ostend; but should the emperor be hard pressed on that subject, he might join the czar and the king of Sweden, and by promoting their designs in favour of the duke of Holstein, increase his majesty's anxiety. On the other hand, all the Italian powers exclaimed against the last treaties. France and Spain were inclined to support these potentates against the house of Austria. In short, the flames of war seemed ready to be rekindled in Europe; and king George was entangled in such a variety of treaties and interests, that he knew not well how to manage the execution of the different engagements he had contracted. By declaring for the emperor, he must have incurred the resentment of France, Spain, and their allies in Italy, and countenanced the new establishment at Ostend, which was so prejudicial to his British subjects. In abandoning the interests of the emperor he would have exposed his German dominions. He vainly endeavoured to persuade his Imperial majesty to relax in his pretensions with Spain, and give up the Ostend Company; the court of Vienna proposed in general to observe the trea-

ties which it had concluded, but declined entering into any particular discussion, so that all his majesty's endeavours issued in contracting closer connection with Prussia and Denmark.

No sovereign, in the same interval of years, ever entered into so many negociations, and concluded so many treaties as did king George from his accession to the throne; and a great part of these negociations and treaties, tending to ascertain and consolidate his acquisitions as elector of Hanover, sufficiently indicate his resolution to secure himself both against the attempts of the pretender, and against the disaffection of his British subjects; a precaution as prudent at the beginning of a new dynasty, as it has since become useless, owing not only to the extinction of James II.'s family, but principally on account of the national prosperity and happiness constantly growing in Great Britain, in proportion with the hereditary wisdom and virtues with which the princes of the illustrious house of Brunswick have adorned the English throne, and for ever endeared their right to it.

The death of the duke of Orleans, regent of France, December 2d, did not in the least alter the connections and politics of that country towards Great Britain; and the king immediately received assurances of the good disposition of the French court to cultivate, and even improve, the good understanding so happily established between the two nations.

Ann. 1724.

The king on his return from the continent assembled the parliament, on the 9th day of January, recommended in his speech the care of the public debts, and expressed his satisfaction at seeing them in a fair way of being gradually discharged by the

improvement and augmentation of the sinking fund. The commons having granted all the supplies that were demanded, took into consideration a grievance arising from protections granted by foreign ministers, peers, and members of parliament, under which profligate persons were screened from the prosecution of their creditors. The commons resolved, that all protections granted by the members of that house should be declared void, and immediately withdrawn. The lords made a declaration to the same purpose, with an exception to menial servants, and of those necessarily employed about the estates of peers. The king closed the session, April 24th, and sent Mr. Horatio Walpole as ambassador extraordinary to the court of France.

The next parliament meets November 12th, and immediately provides for the expenses of the year by adequate supplies. Enormous abuses are discovered in the high court of chancery. The earl of Macclesfield, lord chancellor, is impeached by the commons, at the bar of the upper house, of high crimes and misdemeanors, namely, of having embezzled the estates and effects of many widows, orphans, and lunatics; raised the offices of masters in chancery to an exorbitant price; trusting in their hands large sums of money belonging to suitors, that they might be enabled to comply with his avidity, &c. &c. The earl being convicted of these fraudulent practices, is condemned in a fine of 30,000*l.* with imprisonment until the same should be paid.

Ann. 1725.

The debts of the civil list being increased to above 500,000*l.* an act is passed enabling the king, on his demand, to raise any sum, not exceeding one million, on the credit of deductions of sixpence per pound from all the payments of the

civil list, for redeeming the annuities of 25,000*l.* per annum charged upon it, and for discharging the debts and arrears due from his majesty to his servants, tradesmen, and other creditors.

A petition is presented to the house in behalf of Henry St. John, late vicount Bolingbroke, attainted for high treason, and praying that the execution of the law with respect to his forfeitures, might be suspended, as his majesty's pardon had suspended it with respect to his life. Mr. Walpole signifies to the house by the king's command that the petitioner had, seven years before, made his humble application and submission to his majesty, who, from his behaviour since that time, was convinced of his being a fit object of his mercy, and consented to his petitioning the house. After a warm debate, the motion for a bill restoring him to the possession of his personal estates, is carried by a majority of 231 against 113. Lord Bolingbroke had withdrawn to France soon after king George's accession, and had offered his services to the pretender, who appointed him secretary of state. But at the end of the next year (1715) the attempts of the jacobites, and of the pretender himself, in Scotland, having completely failed, the pretender, on his return to France, where he had left lord Bolingbroke in order to send him supplies into Scotland, discharged him from all his employments under him in the most abrupt and injurious manner, for his having delayed, either through negligence or infidelity, to send arms and ammunition, the want of which had been the cause of the miscarriage of the enterprise. Bolingbroke vainly endeavoured to justify his conduct, by maintaining that he had neither money to buy nor the necessary orders to embark those supplies; all his arguments were of no avail with the pretender; but he soon made his submission to the king, and his disgrace at the court of

St. Germain naturally became his best recommendation to the clemency and pardon of his majesty.

The king prorogued the parliament in the month of May, and expressed in the warmest terms his approbation of their conduct. Then he revived the order of the Knights of the Bath, and erected it into a regular military order, the number of whom was fixed to 38, including the sovereign; and his majesty having appointed lords justices to govern in his absence, he set out in June for his German dominions.

The congress of Cambray having proved ineffectual, the queen of Spain offered to adjust her differences with the emperor under the sole mediation of Great Britain, an honour which king George declined, apprehending that the accepting of it might have disoblged France, with whom, ever since the death of Lewis XIV. the British court had contracted the strictest friendship. The peace between the courts of Spain and Vienna was effected by a secret negociation, under the management of the duke of Ripperda. By three treaties, signed at Vienna in the month of April, the emperor acknowledged Philip as king of Spain and the Indies, promising not to molest him in the possession of those dominions, that were secured to him by the treaty of Utrecht. Philip renounced all pretensions to the dominions in Italy and the Netherlands, and became guarantee of the Austrian succession according to the Pragmatic Sanction. By the commercial treaty of Vienna, the Austrian subjects were entitled to advantages in trade with Spain which no other nation enjoyed. Philip guaranteed the Ostend East India Company; and agreed to pay an annual subsidy of four millions of piasters to the emperor. By a third treaty, the two sovereigns guaranteed their respective territories, and engaged to support each other with

all their force, should either be attacked ; the king of Spain was to supply fifteen men of war, 15,000 foot, and 5000 horse, or stipulated subsidies ; the emperor to bring into the field 30,000 foot and 10,000 horse. He engaged besides by a secret article to concur in employing force for restoring Gibraltar and Port Mahon to Spain, if it could not be amicably effected, and even for the pretender's restoration. (*Tindal, xix. 537.*) The Imperial forces were augmented to a formidable number ; other powers were solicited to engage in this alliance, and Russia actually acceded to it.

George, had been for some time in a manifest coolness with the emperor, both as king of England and elector of Hanover ; as king, for his strict alliance with France ; and as elector, for the acquisition of Bremen and Verden, and for refusing to pay the enormous fine demanded for the investiture ; so that his majesty, fearing some attempts on his German dominions, projected a defensive alliance with France and Prussia. The treaty was negotiated and concluded at Hanover. It implied a mutual guarantee of the respective dominions of the contracting parties, their rights and privileges, those of commerce in particular, and an engagement to procure satisfaction to the protestants of Thorn, who had been lately oppressed by the catholics. The treaty of Hanover was evidently dictated by the interest of the king's dominions in Germany ; but, in order to secure the approbation of Great Britain, upon which the support of this alliance chiefly depended, it was thought adviseable to introduce with some emphasis the popular articles of commerce and protestant religion, that the glory and prosperity of England might be considered as the principal objects of the treaty. The king, on his return at the latter end of December, was assailed by a most violent storm, which separated all the ships. The tem-

pest continued so high, and the sea so boisterous for thirty-six hours, that the whole fleet was in the utmost danger. His majesty had at last a safe landing at Rye, but the roads in that part of the country being unsafe from a great fall of snow, he could not arrive in London before the 9th of January.

Ann. 1726.

The parliament is assembled, January 20th; the king in his speech to both houses, acquaints them with the circumstances and motives of the Hanover treaty, and desires the same supplies and the same number of troops they had granted for the preceding year. An address is voted by both houses, approving the treaty of Hanover, and promising to support his majesty against all insults and attacks that should be made upon any of his territories, though not belonging to the crown of Great Britain. The commons take into their immediate consideration the demand of supplies. The reduction of the 4000 additional troops is still insisted on, but negatived by a great majority; and the same number of land forces, 18,264 men, with the same provision for them, are voted, as well as an extraordinary supply to enable his majesty to augment his maritime force.

Violent riots having taken place at Glasgow, on account of the continuation of the malt-tax, against which the royal boroughs of Scotland had petitioned as a burthen too heavy for their country, an act was passed imposing two pence upon all ale and beer brewed in the city of Glasgow, to repair the damages committed by the rioters. The business of the session being over, the king dismissed the parliament, May 24th.

The duke of Wharton having expended his whole fortune in riot and extravagance, repaired to Rome, and offered his services to the pretender, who hav-

ing favoured him with the order of the garter, and the title of duke of Northumberland, sent him with credentials to the court of Madrid, where he abjured the protestant religion, married a lady of the queen of Spain's bedchamber, and obtained the rank and appointment of a lieutenant-colonel in the Spanish service.

Three different squadrons are fitted out at once, one consisting of 21 men of war and two fire-ships, destined to oppose in the Baltic the formidable armament prepared by the czarina of Russia; another of twelve or more ships of the line, designed for the Mediterranean; and a third of seven ships of the line for the West-Indies. The first, being joined at Copenhagen by a Danish squadron, so much alarmed the czarina, that she gave immediate orders for reinforcing her garrisons. At the same time, she thought proper to suspend the fitting out of large ships, and only to equip some frigates. Admiral Wager, who commanded that squadron, having had an audience of the king of Sweden, steered towards Revel, and sent thither a lieutenant with a letter from king George to the czarina, in which his majesty observed, that he and his allies could not fail of being alarmed at her great preparations by sea and land. He complained, that while he was carrying on amicable negotiations with her majesty, measures had been taken at her court in favour of the pretender, and great encouragement given to his adherents; and he gave her to understand, that he had ordered his admiral to prevent her ships coming out of her harbours, should she persist in the designs she had projected. The czarina expressed in her answer her surprise, that the king had not expostulated with her respecting her armament, and expected her answer before he had proceeded to such an offensive measure. She assured him that nothing was farther from her thoughts

than any design to disturb the peace of the north ; and with regard to the pretender, it was a frivolous and stale accusation, which had been frequently used as a pretext to cover all the unkind steps lately taken against the Russian empire. Admiral Wager continued, however, in his station until the Russian gallies were laid up in their winter harbour.

In the Mediterranean the English squadron, under the command of sir John Jennings, visited Lisbon, steered to Cadiz, and cruised off Cape St. Mary's, so as to alarm the court of Spain and fill Madrid with consternation. Admiral Hosier, who sailed for the Spanish West-Indies, with instructions to block up the galleons in the ports of that country, or to seize them should they presume to come out, found that the treasure, consisting of above six millions sterling had been just unloaded, in pursuance of an order sent by an advice boat which had the start of him. Having reinforced his crews at Jamaica, he stood over to Carthagea, where he found that the Spaniards had taken an English South-Sea ship at la Vera Cruz, with all the vessels and effects belonging to that company ; the restitution of which being refused, he took some Spanish ships by way of reprisal, and continued cruising in those seas, until the greatest part of his men perished by the diseases of that unhealthy climate, and his ships almost destroyed by the worms. The people loudly clamoured in England against this expedition, which cost so many lives and so much money without the least advantage.

The king of Spain assembles an army of 20,000 men at St. Roch, under pretence of rebuilding the old castle of Gibraltar. Meanwhile the states-general and the king of Sweden accede to the treaty of Hanover ; but the king of Prussia, though his majesty's son-in-law, is detached from the alliance by the emperor, with whom he contracts an alliance.

Ann. 1727.

The parliament was assembled, January 17th; the king in a long, animated, and pathetic speech, called their attention to the proceedings and transactions of the courts of Vienna and Madrid, on the secret and offensive alliance concluded between them, as the foundation of a most exorbitant and formidable power, principally levelled against the most valuable interests and privileges of the English nation, who must either give up Gibraltar to Spain, and acquiesce in the emperor's usurped exercise of commerce, or resolve vigorously to defend their undoubted rights against those ambitious engagements contracted in defiance and violation of the most solemn treaties. He assured them that the pretender's restoration and the conquest of Gibraltar and Port Mahon were among the secret articles of the treaty of Vienna; that those fatal combinations were concerted with Russia, whose hostile co-operation had been fortunately prevented by the seasonable arrival of the English fleet in the Baltic. He told them that the king of Spain had ordered his minister in England to depart immediately, and that he had left a memorial little short of a declaration of war, in which he insisted again upon the restitution of Gibraltar.

Such addresses of thanks were voted in both houses as the ministers were pleased to dictate. The commons unanimously resolved to grant 20,000 seamen, and to raise the land forces to 26,383 men, and the whole supply amounted to 2,998,104*l.* 11*s.*

The lords having taken into consideration the letters and memorials passed between the ministers of Great Britain, France and Spain, and the papers respecting the accession of the states-general to the treaty of Hanover; a warm debate ensued, whether

any just and important motive existed for a rupture with Spain, besides some indiscreet expressions dropped by the duke of Riperda, and which had been solemnly disavowed by his catholic majesty; and whether the nation being now loaded with a debt of fifty millions, would it not be much wiser to try some method of accommodation, before engaging in a war by which nothing could be gained should it prove successful, and every thing would be lost should it be unprosperous. But lord Townshend having affirmed that his majesty had received positive information with respect to the secret articles in favour of the pretender, though the safety of the state did not permit him to lay these articles before the parliament, the majority resolved that the measures his majesty thought fit to adopt, were just, honourable, and necessary.

In the accounts laid before the house of commons, there was an article of 125,000*l.* charged in general terms as issued out for other engagements and expenses, without any further specification. Upon this, it was resolved to address the king for an account of the disposition of that money; in answer to which the house was told, that the sum was employed pursuant to the power given to his majesty, for necessary services and engagements of the utmost importance, and which required the greatest secrecy, and that a particular account of its distribution could not possibly be given without a manifest prejudice to the public. A further address for an account being moved, the question was carried against it by a majority of 235 against 110.

The court of Vienna, highly offended at the king's speech, ordered the imperial resident at London to present to the king a bold memorial, in which several assertions in his majesty's speech were declared as so many falsehoods. This memorial, with a letter

of count Zinzendorf still more injurious, were published as an appeal to the people against their sovereign. Both houses joined in an address, expressing their indignation at the affront offered to his majesty by this seditious libel, and by the insolence of dispersing it throughout the kingdom.

The king at this time had the satisfaction of hearing of the accession of the king of Sweden to the treaty of Hanover. His Swedish majesty was to furnish (when the case of the alliance should happen) 3000 foot and 2000 horse. His engagement was only with Great Britain and France. It was stipulated by a secret article, that the two kings should pay him a subsidy of 50,000*l.* for three years; in return for which, the king of Sweden was to hold in readiness another body of 7000 foot and 3000 horse, to be employed where the cases of the alliance should render it necessary. The king of Denmark promised to keep on foot 24,000 men ready to march, and was to receive from the French king 350,000 rix-dollars for four years. As soon as the Danish army should march, the king of France was to take out of it 12,000 men in his pay, and moreover, hold in readiness at least 30,000 men; and his Britannic Majesty, 12,000 to join the Danish army; besides, he was to send a squadron to cover the Danish coast upon the first advice of the motions of the Muscovite fleet. A convention had been made likewise with the landgrave of Hesse Cassel, who was to hold in readiness for the service of Great Britain, 8000 foot and 4000 horse, and maintain these troops at his own charge for two years; for which king George promised to pay him 75,000*l.* after the ratification of the convention, and 50,000*l.* in February following, or before, in case the troops should be required.

About the same time the English and French ministers at the general diet of Ratisbonne, present-

ed a declaration to the diet, affirming, that the preparations which were making by these two sovereigns, were only for the preservation of peace. The sincerity of these assurances was the less to be questioned, that they were repeated by his majesty in his speech to both houses at the close of this session, though he knew at that time that the Spanish army had opened the trenches before Gibraltar. "The love of peace," said he, "has hitherto prevailed upon me, *even under this high provocation*, to suspend, in some measure, my resentments; and instead of having immediate recourse to arms, and demanding of my allies that assistance they are engaged and ready to give me, I have concurred with the most christian king and the states-general, in making such overtures of accommodation as must convince all the world of the uprightness of our intentions, and of our sincere disposition to peace, and demonstrate to whose ambition and thirst of power the calamities of a war are to be imputed, if these just and reasonable propositions are rejected."

The parliament was prorogued, May 15th. The states-general, apprehending at that time an attempt from the emperor upon their barrier in the Netherlands, desired the king would hold in readiness the 10,000 auxiliaries stipulated in the treaty. They were immediately prepared for embarkation, and besides thirty new raised companies. Meanwhile, sir John Norris was sent with a considerable fleet to the Baltic to support the king of Sweden. The English fleet being joined by a Danish squadron, the court of Russia thought fit to put a stop to the equipment of their fleet, which was no more talked of after the death of the empress Catherine, which occurred precisely at that period.

The king of France, at this juncture, interposed his mediation; plans and counterplans of pacifica-

tion were proposed. At length all parties agreed to twelve preliminary articles, importing that hostilities should immediately cease; that the charter of the Ostend East-India-Company should be suspended for seven years; and that a congress should in four months be opened at Aix-la-Chapelle for adjusting all differences, and consolidating the peace of Europe. This congress was afterwards transferred to Cambray, and finally to Soissons. The siege at Gibraltar was raised. The court of Madrid started however some difficulty, and for some time would not consent to the restitution of the South-Sea ship, which had been detained at la Vera Cruz; so that sir Charles Wager continued to cruise on the coast of Spain; but this mercantile difficulty was soon overcome by the important consideration of not protracting any longer the restoration of a general peace in Europe.

King George having appointed a regency, departed for Hanover on the 3rd of June. He enjoyed perfect health till he arrived at Delden. He was entertained by count de Twittel, at a country house about twenty miles from that town, and ate after supper some melons, which probably caused the indigestion and the apoplectic fit of which he died the 11th day of June in the 68th year of his age and the 18th of his reign, leaving an only son, who succeeded him, and a daughter, married to the king of Prussia, Frederic I. and mother to the great Frederic.

George I. united with the fittest qualifications to recommend a new dynasty all the abilities requisite for its consolidation. Though of a grave and calm temper, he was easy, familiar, and even facetious in his hours of relaxation. Alternately indulgent and severe, according to circumstances, but constantly just; he never was more pleased than when he

could indulge in that benignity which predominating in his heart was naturally impressed on his countenance. Wise and steady in his resolutions, he inflexibly pursued those which appeared the most equitable and consistent with the honour and dignity of the nation, as well as with his own. Much attached to, and even very jealous of his authority and prerogative, he, however, well knew their limits, and desired no power but what enabled him to promote the welfare of the nation. His measures were generally attended with success, partly owing to his good fortune, but much more to his prudent assiduity. Though his martial disposition and military talents had been conspicuously displayed in his younger days in Hungary and Morea against the Turks, as well as in Flanders and Germany against France, he preferred to the popularity of victories the more solid advantage of securing to his new subjects the blessings of an honourable peace, and to himself the preservation of his dominions in Germany, and the exclusion of the pretender from those of Great Britain. Defensive alliances, and preventive measures were accordingly the chief object of his politics, and the foundation of the happiness and glory of his reign, both of which would have been unimpaired, had it not been for the misfortunes and disgrace which attended the South-sea scheme ; the most deplorable offspring of the corruption and avidity of his ministers and of his own financial inexperience, misled by a laudable eagerness for the reduction of the public debt. He was indebted to the superior abilities of sir Robert Walpole for his kingdom and himself being rescued from such an abyss of perdition. An unreserved confidence in that minister, during the remainder of his majesty's reign, was the honourable reward of this important service ; and it is curious to remark, that as the king could not

readily speak English, nor sir Robert, French, the minister was obliged to deliver his sentiments in Latin; and as neither could converse in that language with correctness and fluency, Walpole was frequently heard to say, that during the reign of George I. he managed the government of the kingdom by means of bad Latin. (*Memoirs of sir Robert Walpole*, vol. i. p. 465.)

After having thus impartially delineated George's character and qualifications as a king, history's austerity impose the painful duty of acknowledging that his private virtues were far from being so estimable; he certainly was neither a kind father nor an affectionate husband. His everlasting jealousy and harsh treatment towards his unoffending dutiful son, are utterly unaccountable. But his unrelenting severity towards his innocent and unfortunate wife, Sophia of Zell, was still more inexcusable. Innocent she was, as from all the circumstances of her conduct and other important facts since discovered, it plainly appears that she was condemned on a mere suspicion, though in reality she was only guilty of a pardonable imprudence. She is, therefore, entitled to obtain for her memory, before the tribunal of posterity, that just reparation which her august rank precluded her from obtaining in any other tribunal during her life time, and which could not be denied to her without opposing incontrovertible proofs to the account related in the *Memoirs of sir Robert Walpole*, (vol. i. p. 466) and derived from the manuscript journal of N. W. Wraxall, Esq. Etough's Papers, and from various communications which Walpole himself received at Hanover, the substance of which is as follows, and cannot be found amiss, as it evinces that the blood of the dynasty of Brunswick has continued to flow no less unpolluted in all its royal streams, than illustrious in its origin.

“ Sophia, at the time of her marriage, was only
“ fifteen years of age, and was a princess of great
“ personal charms and mental endowments ; yet
“ her attractions did not retain the affections of her
“ husband. After she had brought him a son and
“ a daughter, he neglected his amiable consort, and
“ attached himself to a favourite mistress. Such
“ was the situation of Sophia, when count Konigs-
“ mark, a Swedish nobleman, arrived at Hanover.
“ He was a man of a handsome figure, and professed
“ gallantry ; he had been formerly enamoured of
“ Sophia at Zell, and was supposed to have made
“ some impression on her heart. His passion, on
“ seeing her again, revived with an increased vio-
“ lence ; he had the imprudence publicly to renew
“ his attentions, and made his solicitations with re-
“ doubled ardour, as George was at the army.
“ Ernest Augustus, his father, was informed of it,
“ and one evening as the count came out of her apart-
“ ment and was crossing a passage, he was put to
“ death, in the presence of the elector, by a person
“ placed to intercept him, and tradition still marks
“ the spot where this assassination was committed.
“ Sophia was immediately put under arrest, though
“ she solemnly protested of her innocence. George,
“ who never loved her, gave implicit credit to the
“ account of her infidelity as related by his father,
“ consented to her imprisonment, and obtained
“ from the ecclesiastical consistory a divorce, which
“ was passed on the 28th of December 1694. The
“ unfortunate Sophia was confined in the castle of
“ Alden, situated on the small river Aller, in the
“ duchy of Zell, where she terminated her misera-
“ ble existence in the sixty-first year of her age,
“ only seven months before the death of George I.
“ and after a long captivity of 32 years. She was an-
“ nounced in the Gazette under the title of the elec-
“ tress dowager of Hanover ; and George had by a

“ left-handed marriage, espoused his mistress the
“ duchess of Kendal, though his real wife was still
“ alive. During her whole confinement, Sophia
“ behaved with no less mildness than dignity ; and
“ on receiving the sacrament every week, never
“ omitted on that awful occasion, making the most
“ solemn asseverations that she was not guilty of
“ the crime laid to her charge. Subsequent cir-
“ cumstances have come to light, which appear to
“ justify her memory ; and reports are current at
“ Hanover, that her character was basely defamed,
“ and that she fell a sacrifice to the jealousy and
“ perfidy of the countess of Platen, favourite mis-
“ tress of Ernest Augustus. Being enamoured of
“ count Konigsmark, who slighted her overtures,
“ jealousy took possession of her breast. She deter-
“ mined to sacrifice both the lover and the princess
“ to her vengeance, and circumstances favoured
“ her design. It was asserted, either that a com-
“ mon visit was construed into an act of crimina-
“ lity, or that the countess of Platen, at a late hour
“ summoned count Konigsmark in the name of
“ the princess, though without her connivance ;
“ that on quitting the apartment he was discover-
“ ed by Ernest Augustus, whom the countess had
“ placed in the gallery, and was instantly assassinat-
“ ed by persons suborned for that purpose. His
“ sudden murder may be urged as a corroboration
“ of this statement ; for had his guilt and that of
“ Sophia been unequivocal, would he not have been
“ arrested and brought to a trial for the purpose of
“ proving their connection, by confronting him
“ with the unfortunate princess ? Many persons
“ at Hanover have not scrupled, since the death
“ of Ernest Augustus and George I. to express
“ their belief, that the imputation cast on Sophia
“ was false and unjust. It is also reported, that
“ her husband having made an offer of reconcilia-

“tion, she gave this noble and disdainful answer
“of haughty virtue unconscious of stain: ‘*If
“what I am accused of is true, I am unworthy of
“his bed, and if my accusation is false, he is un-
“worthy of me; I will not accept his offers.*’
“George II. who doated on his mother, was fully
“convinced of her innocence. He once crossed
“the Aller on horseback to see her, but was oppos-
“ed by the baron de Bulow, to whose care the elec-
“tor had committed her. Had she survived his
“accession, he intended to restore her to liberty
“and acknowledge her as queen dowager. Her
“memory was so dear to him, that he secretly
“kept her portrait in his possession, and the morn-
“ing after the news of the death of George I. had
“reached London, Mrs. Howard observed in the
“antichamber of the king’s apartment a picture of
“a woman in the electoral robes, which proved to
“be that of Sophia. George II. told queen Caro-
“line that in making some repairs in the palace of
“Hanover, the bones of Konigsmark were found
“under the floor of the antichamber which led to
“the apartment of Sophia. The queen mentioned
“this fact to sir Robert Walpole and appeared fully
“convinced of Sophia’s innocence, an opinion,
“which the minister himself constantly adhered
“to.”

GEORGE II. thirty-first King from the Conquest.

[Son of George I. by Sophia Dorothy, princess of Lunenbourg Zell. Born at Hanover, October 30th, 1683. Married Caroline Wilhelmina, princess of Anspach, 1705. Succeeded to the crown, June 15th, 1727, in the forty-fifth year of his age. Crowned with queen Caroline, October 11th following. Died October 25th, 1760, at Kensington, aged 77. Was succeeded by his grandson.]

Ann. 1727.

GEORGE II. had been at a very early period initiated in the profession of arms. He made the campaign of 1708, under the duke of Marlborough, and greatly distinguished himself as a volunteer at the battle of Oudenarde, where he charged the enemy at the head of the Hanoverian dragoons, and had a horse shot under him. If his abilities in the cabinet were not as conspicuous as those of his father, he had many other advantages over him, particularly that of having obtained, previous to his ascending the throne, the esteem and affection of his subjects, not only for the knowledge of the English language and constitution, which he had been very eager to acquire, and daily endeavoured to improve, but on account of the prudence, justice, and benignity he had displayed when he was, during the king's absence in 1716, appointed guardian and lieutenant-general of the kingdom. His popularity had been likewise not a little increased by the propriety of his behaviour during the unfortunate misunderstanding which took place between him and his father, as has been already related. But a still more precious advantage, which Providence

had bestowed upon George II. consisted in the good sense, judgment, and sagacity of queen Caroline, in whom he ever placed the most implicit confidence, who almost entirely governed him to the end of her life ; who bore her faculties so meekly and with such extraordinary prudence, as never to excite the least uneasiness, even in a sovereign, highly tenacious of his authority, but contrived that her opinion should always appear as if it had been his own. She was reckoned handsome before she had the small pox, and became too corpulent. Her hand and arm were greatly admired for their whiteness and elegance ; her smile was celestial, her countenance expressive ; she had a most remarkable sweetness and grace, particularly when she spoke. But these charms of her person were far surpassed by the endowments of her mind. (*Coxe's Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole, vol. ii. p. 5.*)

The account of the late king's death was brought first to sir Robert Walpole, June 14th, in a dispatch from lord Townshend, who had accompanied George I. to the continent, and the minister conveyed immediately the intelligence to George II. The king being resolved to make no change in the administration, assembled the council on the same day, and made a declaration, " That he would maintain the religion, laws, and liberties of the kingdom, as well as the alliances entered into by his late majesty, which had, in a great measure, contributed to restore the tranquillity of Europe." The next day the parliament met, pursuant to the act of queen Anne, for the settlement of the crown, but was prorogued to the 27th of June, the day of the last prorogation. At their meeting on that day, the king repeated in his speech the declaration he had made to the council. The usual addresses being voted by both houses, and a committee having been appointed by the commons to consider of a

supply to be granted to his majesty for the better support of his household, and the honour and dignity of the crown, it was unanimously resolved, July 3rd, on the motion of sir Robert Walpole, that the entire revenues of the civil list, amounting to 130,000*l.* a-year, above the yearly sum of 700,000*l.* granted to his late majesty, should be settled on his present majesty during his life.

Three days after, on his majesty's message, it was resolved with the same unanimity, that a provision of 100,000*l.* per annum should be made for the queen during her life, in case she should survive his majesty, to support her royal dignity, together with his majesty's palace of Somerset-House, and the lodge and lands at Richmond Old-Park. The parliament was prorogued, July 17th to the 29th of August, but on the 7th it was dissolved by proclamation, and a new one called.

His majesty now proceeded to settle his ministry, his council, and his household; not a single member of the existing cabinet-council was removed, excepting the earl of Berkeley, first lord of the admiralty, who was replaced by sir George Byng, viscount Torrington, the confidential friend of Walpole. Meanwhile the elections for the new parliament went on with a spirit which manifested the confidence of the people in the administration.

Ann. 1728.

The new parliament met, January 23rd. Both houses in their addresses, in answer to the speech from the throne, vied with each other in expressions of gratitude and affection to his majesty; approving all its measures, promising to support him in all his undertakings, and to grant whatever supplies should be wanted for the public service. The commons voted 22,955 men for guards and garri-

sons; 15,000 seamen, 230,923*l.* for the maintenance of 12,000 Hessian troops; a subsidy of 50,000*l.* to the king of Sweden, and half that sum to the duke of Brunswick Wolfenbützel. The expence of the year amounted to four millions raised by several taxes, and by borrowing of the bank 1,750,000*l.* for which annuities to the amount of 70,000*l.* to be raised on coals imported in the city of London, were granted to the bank. The number of land forces as well as the Hessian auxiliaries occasioned some debate, and some sarcasms were levelled at the alliance with the petty duke of Wolfenbützel, who very gravely guaranteed to his Britannic majesty the possession of his three kingdoms, with a supply of 5000 men, for which he was to receive an annual subsidy of 25,000*l.* for four years; but all these objections were equally disregarded by a considerable majority. This new house of commons discovered, however, the same curiosity as their predecessors, by addressing the king for a particular and distinct account of the distribution of 250,000*l.* charged to have been issued for securing the trade and navigation of the kingdom, and restoring or preserving the peace of Europe; but George II. declined granting their request, and signified in general, as George I. had done, that the money had been issued for the same necessary services, which required the greatest secrecy.

During this session, a very important debate took place in the house of commons, on the state of the national debt. The opposition maintained, that the sinking fund had been of no service to the purpose to which it was originally intended. This assertion, supported by many plausible arguments and calculations, raised great clamours at home, and had considerable effect abroad in decrying the credit of the nation. Therefore it became necessary to contradict this statement in the same positive man-

ner in which it was advanced. With this view, sir Robert Walpole laying before the commons an account of the sinking fund, solemnly declared, February 22nd, that since 1716 it had discharged above six millions of the debt, but that as new debts had been contracted, the national burdens had, upon the balance, been diminished above two millions and a half. The opposition again urged the increase of the national debt, and insisted on having that important affair debated in a grand committee; but on the motion of the minister, the debate was adjourned to the 4th of March, when the commons in a committee of the whole house, having considered the state of the national debt, and examined at the bar the proper officers of the revenue, a motion was made by the friends of the minister, and carried without a division—"That the monies already applied towards discharging the national debt incurred before Christmass 1716, together with 220,435*l.* to be issued at Lady-Day 1728, amounted to 6,648,762*l.*" A report of this important debate was presented by the commons to his majesty, who expressed his extreme satisfaction for the removal of groundless jealousies and apprehensions, and for the happy effects to be derived from the flourishing state of public credit. The parliament was prorogued, May 28th.

The king's uncle, Ernest Augustus, prince of Brunswick, duke of York, and bishop of Osnabruck, dies August the 3rd. In the beginning of December, his majesty's eldest son, prince Frederic, arrives in England from Hanover, where he had hitherto resided. He is introduced to the council, and created prince of Wales. The duke of Parma, having invited the pretender to reside in his dominions, promising to receive him with the honours and distinction due to the king of Great Britain, the agent for the duke of Parma in London is or-

dered to depart the kingdom in two days, and to be attended by one of the messengers of state to the place of his embarkation.

Ann. 1729.

The congress opened at Soissons for determining all differences among the powers of Europe, was very slow in its progress. No definitive answer was given as yet by the courts of Vienna and Madrid, and the Spanish cruizers in America continued their depredations with impunity against the English trade. The parliament met, January the 21st; the king in his speech hinted that the dilatoriness of the courts of Vienna and Madrid proceeded in a great measure from the hopes of creating discontents and divisions among the subjects of Great Britain. Both houses expressed accordingly in their addresses, their detestation and abhorrence of such base artifices; and the commons, after having examined the estimates, voted the same number of seamen and land forces as in the preceding year. The same subsidies were also continued. An examination being moved and entered into respecting the misdemeanors and oppressions exercised by the gaolers of several prisons upon their prisoners, the most iniquitous scenes of fraud, villany, extortion, and barbarity were discovered and punished.

The civil list had been lately raised to above 800,000*l.* but as the duties upon which it was settled fell short of producing that sum, complaints were made of that deficiency, and after the chief officers of the revenue, as well as all necessary papers and accounts had been examined by the house, a sum of 115,000*l.* was granted to his majesty, upon account of the arrears of his civil-list revenue.

A bill is brought in, March 21st for the more effectually preventing bribery and corruption in elec-

tions for members of parliament, and is carried without opposition in the house of commons. The peers thought proper to raise the penalty upon a corrupt voter, party or agent, from 50*l.* to 500*l.* and that the person so convicted, should be for ever disabled to vote for a member of parliament, and disqualified from holding any office or franchise as a member of any city, borough, town corporate, or cinque port.

An outcry was raised against administration for having degraded the king, and disgraced the nation by breaking a promise made to Philip V. for the restitution of Gibraltar, which, it was urged, had induced that monarch to accede to the Quadruple Alliance. To these reproaches, Walpole answered, that if the promise had ever been made, he durst aver that it was conditional, and rendered void by Spain not complying with the terms on which it was founded. However, as the accounts given by the historians, previous to the publication of Walpole's Memoirs, are generally erroneous, the substance of this minister's narrative, drawn from authentic documents, will give an exact idea of this transaction.

In 1715, George I. for the purpose of avoiding a rupture with Spain, gave full powers to the duke of Orleans, regent of France, to offer the restoration of Gibraltar, and the offer being made, hostilities began from the part of Spain, and therefore, the offer became as null as if it had never been made. The regent, however, with a view to ingratiate himself with the king of Spain, and to promote the double marriage between the two infants and his two daughters, repeatedly renewed the offer without his majesty's participation. The restoration of that important fortress was accordingly urged with great warmth by king Philip, which obliged George I. to declare, that he did not consider himself as

bound by his former conditional promise, as the condition had not been accepted. The regent being reproached by the queen of Spain with a breach of his word, dispatched the count de Senneterre to England, to represent the danger and delicacy of his situation, declaring that he considered the king's promise as full and positive, and that he would as soon consent to his utter ruin, as to the dishonour of failing in so public an engagement. The king's answer to the regent on this occasion was firm, discreet and satisfactory. He concluded by observing, that he had never given his consent since the rupture to the renewal of the offer, and had received no communication from the regent of any intention to bring it forward. The duke of Orleans was fully satisfied with this representation. He promised, that although he could not avoid continuing to press for the restitution of Gibraltar, he would employ every indirect means in his power to prevent its being indiscreetly and improperly urged. George, however, with a view to gratify the regent, was inclined either to refer the object of dispute to the congress at Cambray, or even to restore Gibraltar, if such an equivalent could be obtained as to meet the approbation of parliament. But the obstinacy of the king of Spain rendered this proposal ineffectual, and he insisted so warmly and repeatedly on this claim, as the indispensable requisite for acceding to the terms of pacification, that it was deemed prudent not to retard the conclusion of the peace by a positive denial; and Philip requesting a letter conveying a promise of restoring Gibraltar; George complied, and expressed himself on this delicate subject in the following terms: "I no longer balance to assure your majesty of my readiness to satisfy you with regard to your demand, touching the restitution of Gibraltar, *upon the footing of an equivalent*, promising you to make use of

"the first opportunity to regulate this article *with consent of my parliament.*" The king and queen of Spain made so many objections to this letter, particularly to the words, "*Upon the footing of an equivalent,*" that the king consented to send another copy of his letter in which those words were omitted, leaving thus the whole affair to the decision of parliament. The dissolution of the marriage between Lewis XV. and the Infanta, occurring nearly at that time, Philip broke up the congress at Cambray without having agreed to the preliminaries, and the question of Gibraltar remained undecided. After the ratification of the treaty of Vienna, the court of Madrid renewed their demand, and insisted on an immediate restitution of Gibraltar as the only means of avoiding a rupture. This peremptory demand being rejected on the part of England, Philip commenced the siege of Gibraltar. When the desertion of the emperor compelled him to accept the preliminaries of peace, he clogged the negotiation by renewing his old claim; but he was soon after so alarmed by the project of a provisional treaty between the Imperial, British, and French plenipotentiaries, that he required from the emperor a positive declaration respecting the marriage of the two archduchesses, and the two infants of Spain, and Charles declining to explain himself, excited Philip's resentment to such a degree, that a reconciliation speedily took place between the allies of Hanover and Spain; and Philip, abandoning the emperor, concluded at Seville, November 29th, with Great Britain and France, a treaty of peace, union and mutual defence. Great Britain obtained immediate redress of some grievances, the promise of redress in others, new guarantees of all her possessions and rights of trade, and a tacit exclusion of any claim to Gibraltar, which after the clamorous demand made by Spain, was fully equivalent to a

public renunciation. Great Britain in return consented to the introduction of 6000 Spaniards instead of neutral troops, as specified by the Quadruple Alliance, into Tuscany, Parma, and Placentia, for securing to Don Carlos the eventual succession to those duchies, in case the reigning sovereigns should die without issue male; and if the emperor would not acquiesce, forcible means were to be used for effectuating the introduction. (*Mem. of Sir R. Walpole, vol. ii. from p. 59 to 74.*)

During the negotiations which prepared the important treaty of Seville, the king having prorogued the parliament, and appointed the queen regent of the realm, set out for Hanover, May 17th, and returned to Kensington, September 12th. An act had been passed, May 14th, enabling the queen to be regent in the kingdom during his majesty's absence, without taking the oaths.

Ann. 1730.

The parliament met, January 13th, and the session was opened by a speech, in which the king explained the principal advantages of the treaty of Seville, and congratulated his people upon having at last concluded an absolute peace with Spain. When the commons returned to their house, the treaty was laid before them, and the *court party* moved for a very loyal address of thanks to the throne; but it was opposed by the *country party*, as such were the two denominations which had succeeded those of *whigs* and *tories*, *jacobites* and *Hanoverians*.

This session was particularly remarkable by the increase of steadiness and strength, at least numeral, acquired by the country party, owing to a regular plan of a systematic opposition formed by Bolingbroke, and carried into execution by means of his address and activity. His intimacy with sir William

Wyndham, secured to him the support of the tories, and he had obtained an influence over the discontented whigs by his connection with William Pulteney, the avowed patron of the Craftsman, an anti-ministerial paper, which flourished at that time, and was indebted for its best chapters and paragraphs to the witty and elegant pen of Bolingbroke, whose schemes aimed invariably at the overthrow of the present administration, particularly of sir Robert Walpole. Under his auspices, and by his direction, the opposition brought forward many questions calculated to harass government, and to render themselves popular. Their hopes of success were highly sanguine, and a notion prevailed both at home and abroad, that the fall of the minister was unavoidable. The address was carried, however, by a majority of 262 against 129.

In the house of peers, whose address was equally loyal, a day was appointed for taking into consideration the treaty of Seville. Many censures and motions were levelled against it, and many protests entered into, but a full approbation of it was voted by a majority of 85 against 31. An act was passed at that time for the reduction of the whole salt duties, as being the taxes that lay heaviest upon the poor people.

The next trial the opposition made of their strength, was on the question concerning the imperial loan. The emperor being deprived by the treaty of Seville, of liberal remittances from Spain, attempted to borrow 400,000*l.* in London. The king apprehending that such a large sum might be employed against the tranquillity of Great Britain; a bill was presented to the commons for preventing loans to foreign powers without licence from the king under his privy seal. The hardships of all restraints, the disadvantage to Great Britain and the advantage to the Dutch, opened a vast field

for argumentation. Walpole took an active share in the debate, and the bill passed, by a majority of 84 against 66. A sufficient justification of the measure was, that the want of money compelled the court of Vienna to submit to terms of accommodation.

The bill respecting the land forces, fixed them to 17,709 for the service of the year, and the foreign troops in the British pay, did not pass without a warm but unsuccessful opposition in both houses. But the measure by far the most popular and plausible, which the opposition entered upon, in order to distress the ministry, was their moving, February 16th, what they called the self-denying bill, for disabling from being chosen members of, or sitting and voting in the house of commons, all persons who had any pension during pleasure or for any number of years, or any offices held in trust for them from the crown, a measure, which, from this period, became a never-failing topic of anti-ministerial attack. In order to enforce its execution, it was proposed, that every member on taking his seat should swear that he had not any pension directly or indirectly, did not enjoy any gratuity or reward, or hold any office or place of trust; and that after having accepted the same, he would signify it to the house within fourteen days. Walpole, who knew the unpopularity of the arguments which could be urged against the bill, declined taking any active part against it, notwithstanding the express injunctions of the king, who called it a villanous bill. He did not even speak in the debate, so that the bill was carried by a majority of 144 against 134. But it was negatived by the house of lords after a long debate, and a protest entered by 26 peers. A similar fate attended it in the following sessions.

The stipulation made at the peace of Utrecht,
VOL. IV. Y

for the destruction of the harbour of Dunkirk, had never been fully complied with, which afforded to the opposition a ground for insinuating, that the ministry were in connivance with the court of France to sanction the repairs of that harbour. To obtain evidence in support of this point, Bolingbroke sent his secretary to Dunkirk, and on the exaggerated report of this agent, was founded a motion for an address, that the king should direct that all orders, instructions, reports, and proceedings respecting the harbour of Dunkirk since its demolition, be laid before the house. The king having agreed to this address, the necessary documents were produced and read, and witnesses were examined. The opposition did not fail to find, and to move, that in what had been done at Dunkirk, there was a manifest violation of the treaties between the two crowns. But before the motion was seconded, the other side proposed an address of thanks to the king for his attention to the interests of the nation, and to express their satisfaction in the good effects his majesty's instances had had, by obtaining express orders from the most christian king, for causing to be destroyed all the works that might have been erected at Dunkirk, &c. &c. This address was carried by a majority of 274 against 149.

Another object of great national interest brought forward by the country-party, was to prevent the renewal of the charter of the East-India Company, and to form another incorporated society without the exclusive privileges, and which should grant licences upon certain conditions, to all persons inclined to trade to the East-Indies. The minister being informed of it, anticipated their plan before it was brought to maturity, by insinuating to the house, that a part of his ways and means would be derived from the East-India Company. This unexpected turn wholly disconcerted the minority; they

had, however, proceeded so far, that they could not recede. A petition was, therefore, presented by several merchants, traders, and others, offering to advance 3,200,000*l.* in five payments, at an interest of five per cent. to redeem the fund and trade of the East-India Company. After a long debate, the petition was rejected by a majority of 223 against 138. The petition was again presented in the following month, and rejected without a division. While it was depending, the minister brought in his bill, which prolonged the charter to 1766, on the condition of paying 200,000*l.* towards the supply of the year, and of reducing the interest of the money advanced to the public, from 160,000*l.* to 120,000*l.* by which bargain the nation was benefited by at least a million.

An important act was passed this session for the better regulation of juries, by obliging men of good substance and credit effectually to serve as jurymen, and not shift off that office from themselves upon indigent people. The session was closed, May 15th.

Seven chiefs of the Cherokee nations of Indians in America are brought to England, and being introduced to the king, they lay their crown and regalia at his feet, acknowledge themselves by an authentic deed subjects of his dominions in the name of all their countrymen, and give their assent in the most solemn manner to articles of friendship and commerce.

The solid establishment of the house of Hanover on the throne of Great Britain, having considerably lessened the danger of internal commotions, and of the co-operation of France in favour of the pretender, the chief object of king George's solicitude was to obtain, either by force or persuasive means, the consent of the emperor to the execution of the treaty of Seville; a negociation to that pur-

pose had been accordingly opened at Vienna, and was in a promising state of forwardness, owing to the offer of guaranteeing the emperor's favourite object, the Pragmatic Sanction.

Ann. 1731.

The parliament met on the 21st of January. The king declared in his speech, that every measure was adopted to prevent by an accommodation the fatal consequences of a general rupture, and that it was impossible to state the supplies which would be required for the current service of the year, until peace or war should be decided upon. "But," added he, "if the blessings of peace cannot be obtained, honour, justice, and the sacred faith due to solemn treaties, will call upon us to exert ourselves in procuring, by force, what cannot be had upon just and reasonable terms." A very loyal address in answer to the speech, is moved in the house of commons; an amendment is proposed to request the king not to concur in a war against the emperor either in Flanders or on the Rhine. This amendment being rejected, another is moved, that it should be expressed, that they would support his majesty's engagements so far as they related to the interests of Great Britain. This second amendment is opposed with great energy by sir Robert Walpole, the address is carried without a division, and is equally adopted in the house of peers.

The pension-bill is again proposed and carried in the house of commons, but thrown out in the upper house. The subsidies to the German princes are continued, though warmly opposed by the country-party. The use of the Latin Tongue in proceedings at law, is abolished by a bill, enacting that they should be entered in the English language. It was

stated in the debate, that the number of attornies admitted in the court of king's bench amounted to 1157, and in the court of common pleas to 3006.

On the 7th day of May, the parliament was prorogued after the king had given them to understand that all apprehensions of war were now happily removed by a treaty signed at Vienna between him and the emperor. This treaty, signed March 16th, was a defensive alliance, and stipulated a reciprocal guaranty of mutual rights and possessions; on the part of England, to guaranty the emperor's succession, according to the Pragmatic Sanction; on that of the emperor, to abolish the Ostend Company, and all trade to the East-Indies from any part of the Austrian Netherlands, to secure the succession of Don Carlos to Parma and Tuscany, and not to oppose the introduction of Spanish garrisons.

Thus was gloriously accomplished, to the satisfaction of all parties, the important and difficult task of preventing a general war. The treaty of Seville was quietly executed without breach of faith to any other power. Parma was secured to Don Carlos with the consent of the emperor, and the eventual succession of Tuscany guaranteed; Spain was satisfied with England; and the emperor, gratified with the guaranty of the Pragmatic Sanction, considered this treaty as the commencement of a new æra to the house of Austria. This famous diplomatical achievement, fully completed likewise the satisfaction of the English nation, and reflected the more honour on the minister who conducted it, as he was at that juncture personally engaged in continual struggles against a formidable opposition who were now enraged at his success.

In opening this negociation, Walpole had been anxious not to irritate France before he had conciliated the court of Vienna. There now remained to reconcile with the treaty of Vienna the court

of France, who was alarmed at this renewal of the ancient alliance with Austria. All the jealousies or suspicions in this respect, were completely removed by the candid answer of the British cabinet.

Ann. 1732.

The king, in his speech at the opening of the session, January 13th, acquainted both houses with the fortunate issue of the late negotiations, which having restored and solidly established the general tranquillity of Europe, had fully answered his expectations. He told the commons, that the estimates for the service of the current year would be considerably less than those of former years. He recommended unanimity, observing, that their prosperity had no foundation but in the defence and support of his government. The opposition to the court measures was, however, uncommonly spirited during the course of this session. In the house of commons, a motion was made for an address of thanks, expressing their entire approbation of the king's conduct, their confidence in the wisdom of his councils, acknowledging the blessings they enjoyed under his government, and declaring their readiness to grant the necessary supplies. This address, notwithstanding all the objections of the minority, was carried without a division, and a similar one was voted in the upper house. Then the ordinary accounts and estimates were laid before the house of commons, and the usual votes for a supply past. The pension bill was revived, and experienced the same fate as in the preceding sessions. Such was, likewise, the case for the revived motion of reducing the land forces. In the mean time the minister, disgusted at the acrimony with which his wisest measures were represented both at home and abroad, resolved to make an essay towards strength-

ening his popularity with the support of the landed interest of England, by reviving the duty upon salt and lowering the land tax. He represented that his majesty's intention was, that the burden of taxes should fall as equally as possible upon his subjects ; that no tax could be more general than that upon salt, and scarcely felt by individuals however poor they might be ; whereas the land tax had lasted forty years, and affected the land-holders only ; this representation, however plausible, was strenuously retorted against the minister, with the very arguments he himself had used two years before, for reducing the whole salt duties, justly deemed the most burthensome to the poor. Notwithstanding this manifest inconsistency, the bill passed both houses by a great majority ; a remarkable instance of the predominant confidence enjoyed by Walpole.

A kind of *Mont de Piété*, called the *charitable corporation*, had been established under the reign of queen Anne, for the relief of the industrious poor, who, upon small pledges, were assisted with small sums of money at legal interest. The capital fund of the corporation was originally fixed at 30,000*l.* but was afterwards enlarged to 600,000*l.* The corporation, contrary to the true intent of their charter, now began to lend large sums on goods bought on credit by ill designing persons ; and besides exacting exorbitant rates, sold the pledges, unredeemed in the stipulated time, at such low price as no fair trader could afford them. Several petitions being presented to the house of commons against these scandalous transactions, a bill had been passed for regulating the lending money upon pledges, and for preventing usury and extortion. At this juncture, April 3, George Robinson, member of parliament, cashier of the corporation, having a statute of bankruptcy issued against him, disappeared, as did likewise one Thompson, the warehouse-keeper ; and it

was found upon inquiry that 30,000*l.* was all that would be discovered to answer for a capital of 600,000*l.*; that two members of parliament and several other gentlemen had been principally concerned in the fraudulent practices and management of the affairs of the said corporation. The two members were expelled the house, and a bill was passed to restrain all of them from going out of the kingdom, or alienating their effects, which they were ordered to discover. While this bill was pending, a letter was received from Arbuthnot, banker, at Paris, inclosing another letter from Belloni, a banker at Rome, and the agent of the pretender, informing Arbuthnot, that owing to the pretender's zeal for having justice done to the English nation, Thompson had been arrested and secured in the castle of St. Angelo, at Rome. Belloni insinuated, that Thompson had made a full declaration of all his effects, and given orders for delivering them up; yet these orders and declaration were to remain in the hands of Arbuthnot, till the house of commons or the corporation should agree to the proposals of Thompson; and it was obvious that a full compliance to these proposals could not be productive of any advantage; moreover, the strain of Belloni's letter left no doubt that it was a contrivance of the pretender, or of his adherents; the parliament declared accordingly, that the whole transaction was a scandalous artifice, calculated to delude the unhappy sufferers, and to disguise the wicked practices of the professed enemies to his majesty's person, crown, and dignity; and it was unanimously voted that Belloni's letter should be burnt at the Royal Exchange by the hands of the common hangman. Thus ended an affair which, notwithstanding all the care of government, brought to a complete ruin an immense number of poor families.

A more daring bare-faced instance of the abuse of parliamentary confidence was discovered this session in the fraudulent sale made by two commissioners, members of the commons, of the forfeited reversion of an estate that had belonged to the Derwent-water family, and which brought in near 8000*l.* a-year, and was improveable to 9000*l.* The reversion had been sold for 1000*l.* by the two commissioners. They were expelled the house, and the whole transaction was annulled. Thus the most remarkable occurrence of this session was the expulsion of five members of parliament, for the most sordid acts of knavery.

All the branches of the supply for the service of the year were granted, and a part of the payment was provided for, by taking half a million out of the sinking fund ; a measure ever since severely reproached to Walpole, not only as an inconsistency, but as effectually robbing posterity of 500,000*l.* and the progressive interest of that sum, and levelling, himself, the first death-blow to an institution of his own creation, by introducing a practice, which, being once sanctioned by parliament, was likely to be continued without intermission ; and, indeed, such was the case. However, before venturing to censure an eminent statesman, of so conspicuous abilities and high character as sir Robert Walpole, the existing circumstances, the temper of the times, the situation of the country, should be duly considered, and many questions, as arduous as important, fully explored ; such as, the necessity for a rich and powerful nation to have a considerable public debt, and a gradually increasing sinking fund ; the proper limits and respective proportion of both ; the best method of ascertaining for the sinking fund, that degree of maturity, beyond which it would become almost alarming to all the individual proprietors of the national stock, so as to induce them to place

more advantageously their capital in foreign public stocks. The discussion of such questions far exceeding the limits of this work, I shall confine myself in observing, that such a great master in financial matters as Walpole, destroying himself his own darling scheme, and undermining the boasted monument of his own glory, must have been compelled to it by the impossibility of finding any better means; he had to choose between the blessings of posterity and those of his cotemporaries, and preferred the latter. The consequence was, that his majesty's administration gained by it the affection and support of the generality of the land-holders and monied men in England.

The king having informed both houses that the state of affairs required his presence on the continent, and that he had determined to leave the queen regent, closed the session, June 11th, and set out for Hanover.

Ann. 1733.

The history of England at this period affords very few occurrences of any interest, and chiefly consists of parliamentary debates annually recurring on the same topics, such as the pension bill, the land forces, the subsidy to the German princes, the taking money from the sinking fund, &c. &c.; and as a repetition of the same arguments on both sides, as well as of the same decisions, would be as tedious as needless, and besides inadmissible in an Abridgment, I shall refer the reader for the particulars of these debates to the accounts of the preceding years.

The parliament met, January 16; the king in his speech recommended the raising the annual supplies in the least burthensome manner, and exhorted the members to avoid heats and animosities. His majesty's recommendation was better attended to than

his exhortation. The supplies were granted, but the opponents to the ministers were as ardent and indefatigable as ever in their attacks. The pension bill was moved again, and rejected; the continuation of the same number of land forces was opposed with as little success; and to cut short all the endless train of reasonings upon constitutional and unconstitutional principles, Walpole roundly declared that such a number was absolutely necessary, as long as the nation enjoyed the happiness of having the present illustrious family on the throne.

The commerce of England, owing to the pacific plan and wise measures of the ministry, was then in a very flourishing condition, and public credit, consequently, was so high, that the stock-holders dreaded above all things to be obliged to receive their money from the funds; a circumstance as favourable as possible for a new application to the sinking fund for discharging a part of the supply without any increase of taxes: the committee moved accordingly, that towards raising the supply granted to his majesty, a sum of 500,000*l.* should be issued out of the sinking fund, and notwithstanding the revived arguments of the opposition, the motion was carried at the usual majority.

Walpole unsuccessfully attempted at this period to introduce his favourite *excise scheme*, the grand object of which was to prevent frauds on wine, tobacco, &c. to decrease smuggling, to augment the revenue, to simplify the taxes, and facilitate the collection, so as to enable government to reduce gradually, and ultimately abolish the land-tax. The principal outlines of the plan were to convert the *customs*, or the duties paid by the merchant upon importation, into duties of excise payable by the retail trader upon consumption; and to meliorate the laws of the excise so as to obviate their abuse or oppression; by which means the whole island might

have become a kind of general *free port*, or a magazine and common store-house to all nations. But, unfortunately, the plan was proposed before its being sufficiently matured, and the public mind properly prepared and seasoned to appreciate its excellency. Opposition, displaying against it all the powers of wit and eloquence, succeeded in alarming the common council and principal trading corporations in London, in perverting the judgment and exciting the rage of a deluded multitude, who, by means of seditious mobs and threatening clamours, obliged the ministry to drop the bill after the first reading; a remarkable instance of the dangers or mischiefs commonly attending all improper management of that political and perhaps necessary engine, called *systematic opposition*.

A message from the king informs the parliament, May 8, of his majesty's intention to give the princess royal in marriage to the prince of Orange, promising himself their concurrence and assistance, that he might be enabled to bestow such a portion with his eldest daughter as should be suitable to the occasion. This message is answered by the most loyal addresses of thanks and congratulations from both houses, and the commons immediately resolve, that out of the money arising from the sale of lands in the island of St. Christopher, his majesty should be empowered to apply 80,000*l.* as a marriage dower for his daughter.

On the 11th of June the king put an end to the session in a short but severe speech against "the authors of the wicked endeavours that had been lately made to inflame the minds of the people, and, by the most unjust representations, to raise tumults and disorders that almost threatened the peace of the kingdom."

The prince of Orange arrives in England in the month of November, but his marriage with the

princess royal is postponed on account of his being taken ill.

Ann. 1734.

War was rekindled all over the continent when the parliament met, January 17. The king chiefly expatiated in his speech upon the critical state of affairs in Europe, and the necessity for the British nation to act with circumspection, and maintain itself in a proper posture of defence. The address of the house of peers was extremely loyal and dutiful, and received a very gracious answer. The state of the parties in the house of commons continued much the same as it was in the last session. The members in the opposition, irritated and inflamed by personal animosity against the minister, seemed to have resolved to oppose all his measures, whether they might or might not be necessary for the safety and advantage of the kingdom. They first tried their strength in various motions for papers respecting the negociations with France and Spain, for an address to know how far the king was engaged by his good offices in the cause of the war against the emperor; and for an account of what application had been made by the parties engaged in hostilities. But in these motions their exertions were baffled by the minister. An opinion was prevailing at this juncture, that Walpole's credit with the king was declining and his disgrace certain, and this opinion was corroborated by the recent defection of several peers who enjoyed very profitable posts under the crown; such as, the duke of Montrose, the earls of Chesterfield, of Burlington, of Stair, of Marchmont, and lord Clinton. But the event proved otherwise; two days after the excise bill was abandoned, these noblemen were dismissed from their employments; and even the duke of

Bolton, colonel of the king's regiment of horse guards, and lord Cobham, colonel of the king's regiment of horse, who had influenced their friends in the house of commons against the excise bill, were deprived of their regiments.

The disgrace of these two colonels was represented in the most odious colours, as an arbitrary act of the minister, who had resolved to garble the army, so that no officer should dare to vote against him in either house of parliament. The opposition carried their blind animosity in this circumstance to such an excess, as to bring forward a question, that had a direct tendency to undermine, or rather destroy the constitution, by renewing that military independence, which, in the last century, had subverted the throne and enslaved the people. Lord Morpeth moved for leave to bring in a bill, "for securing the constitution, by preventing officers, not above the rank of colonels, from being deprived of their commissions otherwise than by judgment of a court-martial to be held for that purpose, or by address of either house of parliament." This motion was argued at great length, and with uncommon warmth. Walpole, after having vindicated by incontrovertible arguments, the sound principles and doctrines of the constitution, observed, that the behaviour of an officer might be influenced by malice, revenge, or faction, so as to induce him to oppose in every thing the measures of government; "and, in such case," said he, "I should think any man a pitiful minister, if he should be afraid of advising his majesty to cashier such an officer. On the contrary, I shall leave it as a legacy to all future ministers, that upon every occasion it is their duty to advise their master, that such a man is unfit to have any command in his armies." The question was negatived without a division.

Foiled in this attempt, the opposition renewed the attack, by moving for an address, humbly to desire his majesty graciously to inform the house by whose advice he had been pleased to discharge the duke of Bolton and lord Cobham, and what crimes were alledged against them. The motion was strenuously seconded, but equally negatived, though the ministry declined to make any reply.

The question on which the opposition founded their principal hopes, was the repeal of the septennial bill, a proposal which was first introduced on this occasion, and afterwards annually renewed. This bill had been originally promoted by the whigs, who thought it necessary for the security of the protestant succession, and warmly opposed by the tories and jacobites. The same arguments that had been urged on both sides, when the bill was introduced, were now revived with all the powers of eloquence and reasoning for and against its repeal; and with an additional sharpness of malignant allusions. The principal objection against the bill was, that the elections for a septennial parliament were more liable to be influenced by corruption than for a triennial. Walpole surpassed himself in this debate, and threw such a light on the dangers and inconveniences of triennial parliaments, that the question being called for was carried in the negative by a majority of 247 against 184.

The ceremony of the marriage between the prince of Orange and the princess royal is performed by the bishop of London, March 14. Message from the king, to be enabled to augment his forces if occasion should require, between the dissolution of this parliament and the election of another. The motion for taking the message into consideration is carried in the affirmative, and an address is presented by the commons to his majesty, signifying their compliance with his desire. In consequence of

was approved nearly with the same unanimity. The land forces were reduced to 17,704.

The whole debt of the nation, as it stood at Christmas, 1735, amounted to 47,938,298*l.* 3*s.* 3½*d.*

The marriage of the prince of Wales to the princess of Saxe-Gotha, sister to the reigning duke, was celebrated April 27. While the usual congratulations on such occasions were under deliberation in the house of commons, two young orators on the side of the opposition, Mr. Lyttleton, afterwards lord Lyttleton, and Mr. Pitt, afterwards the celebrated lord Chatham, rendered themselves highly conspicuous by two speeches of the greatest eloquence: "The former," says *Tindal*, (*vol. xx. p. 301.*) "shewed how well he had studied Cicero. As to the speech of the latter, we have few models of antiquity more perfect in that kind, it being more ornamented than the declamations of Demosthenes, and less diffuse than those of Cicero."

The justices of the peace of the county of Middlesex having inquired into the number of houses that sold geneva, found there were, in the limits of Westminster, the Tower, and Finsbury jurisdictions, exclusive of London and Southwark, 7044 houses and shops, where that liquor was publicly sold by retail, besides what was privately sold in garrets, cellars, and back rooms. They presented a petition to the house of commons, setting forth, that the constant and excessive use of that liquor had been carried so far as to have already destroyed thousands of his majesty's subjects, and rendered great numbers of others unfit for useful service, driving them into all manner of vice and wickedness. This petition being referred to a committee, it was found that the low price of the spirituous liquors was the principal cause of their excessive and pernicious consumption; and that the most efficacious remedy was to lay a heavy duty upon all such

liquors. An act was passed accordingly, imposing a duty of twenty shillings per gallon upon all spirituous liquors, and forbidding all persons from selling them but by a licence, for which a yearly duty of 50*l.* was to be paid. Many petitions were presented against this bill by the West-India merchants and the distillers, but to no purpose. During the debates a message from the king acquainted the house, that as the alterations to be made by that bill upon all spirituous liquors, might affect a part of the civil-list revenue arising from them, his majesty consented to accept any other revenue of equal value. The house acquiesced in this proposal, and the indemnity due to his majesty was fixed at 70,000*l.* a-year. The king was enabled by another bill to take 600,000*l.* from the sinking fund, at an interest not exceeding three per cent. per annum.

On the 16th of February, being the day after the last full moon before the equinox, there was a spring tide, which exceeded near a foot and a half all that had been known before. In Westminster hall, the counsel were carried out in boats to their coaches. the Privy-Garden, and the parade in St. James's Park, were overflowed, as was part of the Tower wharf.

An act is passed, May 5, for naturalizing the princess of Wales.

A bill, generally called the Mortmain Bill, was passed, May 20, to restrain the disposition of lands, whereby they became inalienable. By this bill all people were restrained from devising lands to pious or charitable uses or corporations, by will or by deed, if not executed twelve months before their decease; the universities were excepted, and only restrained from purchasing livings.

The session was closed, May 20, and the king having appointed the queen regent, set out immediately for Hanover.

Ann. 1737.

During the king's absence various tumults took place in the capital and other parts of the kingdom ; the disturbances in London were excited principally by the execution of the Gin Act. A more atrocious outrage called forth the attention of government. One Wilson, a daring smuggler, was sentenced to be hanged at Edinburgh, for having robbed a collector of the revenue. The officers of the train-bands and the city guards were ordered to attend the execution, for the purpose of preventing his rescue. The execution was performed without the smallest appearance of riot, and the executioner was at the top of the ladder cutting down the body when the magistrates retired. At this moment the populace rushed forward towards the gallows, part forced their way through the guards, others threw large stones, maimed several soldiers, and struck captain Porteous, who was so provoked at this outrage, that he ordered the soldiers to fire. Five among the crowd were killed and several wounded. Porteous was immediately apprehended, and tried for having directed the soldiers to fire without the orders of the civil magistrate, and was condemned to death. But as seven of the fifteen jurymen had acquitted him, and the verdict which condemned him, *acknowledged that he and his guards were attacked and beat with stones of considerable bigness, whereby several of the soldiers were bruised and wounded*, this ridiculous inconsistency, and other favourable circumstances, induced the queen regent to send down a respite for six weeks, for the purpose of enquiring into the circumstances of the case. But four days after the reprieve was brought to Edinburgh, a mob suddenly rushed in about ten o'clock at night, surprised the guards, seized all

their arms, provided themselves with shot, took possession of the city gates, attacked the jail, drove out the provost and magistrates, who attempted to disperse them, and wounded several of their attendants. They next set fire to the gate of the prison, rushed into the wards, forced the turnkeys to open the doors, released all the prisoners, dragged Porteous to the common place of execution, and hung him upon a dyer's cross post.

At the opening of parliament, February 1, the speech from the throne expressed his majesty's surprise and concern respecting the late disturbances. The commons having voted the usual address, proceeded to take the supply into consideration. They voted 10,000 seamen and 17,704 effective men for the land service of the year. The money was raised partly by the land and malt-taxes, partly by one million granted out of the sinking fund.

Great Britain sustained a great loss at this time in the death of chancellor Talbot, an accomplished magistrate in all respects, particularly by his eminent virtues, sound judgment, and consummate learning. This loss, however, great as it was, was amply compensated by the conspicuous merit and masterly abilities of his successor, lord Hardwicke, (Philip Yorke). This great lawyer, who sat so long and with so distinguished a character at the head of the law, was appointed solicitor general in 1719, in the thirtieth year of his age; attorney general in 1723; lord chief justice of the king's bench, in the month of October, 1733; created Baron Hardwicke in the month of November following; appointed lord chancellor in the month of February, 1737; and created earl in 1754. He resigned the great seal in 1756, after having constantly displayed in the court of chancery as the first magistrate of Great Britain, in the house of lords as a legislator, and in the council as a states-

man, such an integrity and profound knowledge of laws and men, such talents and consummate wisdom as never were surpassed, and very seldom, if ever, equalled; so that he stands for ever an accomplished model to all his successors in the highest offices of the kingdom.

A particular inquiry being made in the house of commons respecting the trial and murder of captain Porteous, an act is passed for disabling Alexander Wilson, the provost, from taking, holding, or enjoying any office or place of magistracy in the city of Edinburgh or elsewhere in Great Britain, and for imposing upon the said corporation a fine of 2000*l.* for the benefit of the widow of Porteous. A reward of 200*l.* is promised by another act to any one who should discover, and convict by their evidence, any person concerned in the murder.

A resolution is proposed by the minister, and carried without a division, for taking one million from the sinking fund, and applying it to redeem an equal sum of old South-Sea annuities,

Various schemes are proposed in the house of commons towards lowering the interests of all redeemable debts to three per cent. which, after long debates, was found neither expedient nor practicable. Warm debates are occasioned by a motion for restraining the players from acting any new plays, till approved by the administration; at length a bill to that purpose is brought in and carried.

The principal occasion for contention that occurred in the course of this session, was a motion made for an address to his majesty, that he would be pleased to settle 100,000*l.* a year upon the prince of Wales. George II. had found from his own experience, how easily the heir apparent might be allured to join with the opposition against the measures of the cabinet, and he entertained an apprehension that the arrival of his son might increase the ferment

existing in the kingdom, and the embarrassments of government. He had therefore deferred from time to time his removal from Hanover, until an event occurred which induced him to accelerate the prince's departure from Germany. He was informed that a secret marriage between his son and the princess royal of Prussia was in great forwardness; and as the two kings had, from their early infancy, harboured a violent antipathy to each other, which their becoming brothers-in-law had not in the least allayed, nothing could be more displeasing to king George than the intended union. He no sooner received the intelligence, than he sent orders to his son to repair instantly to England. The prince immediately obeyed, and soon after arrived at St. James's, where he was coldly received by the king. The dread he entertained of his father's indignation, kept him at first in the humble submission which could be expected from a prince of twenty-one years of age. But as he increased in years, and became conscious of his dignified station, the estrangement of his father and the restraint in which he was kept, naturally disgusted him. As he had a fondness for literary pursuits, he sought the society of persons who were most conspicuous for their talents and knowledge. Thus by the king's unaccountably imprudent conduct, he was thrown into the company of the principal members of the opposition, who at the same time were considered as the leading characters for wit, talents, and urbanity. His house became the rendezvous of Pitt, Lyttleton, and the Grenvilles, whom he afterwards took into his household, and made his associates. Bolingbroke, by his fascinating manners and conversation entirely obtained his confidence, and principally contributed to increase his resentment against the king; and to persuade him that the cause of opposition was that of honour and liberty.

In these dispositions, so early as 1734, he, one day, repaired to the king's anti-chamber, and, without any previous application, requested an immediate audience. The king, prompted by his indignation to proceed to instant extremities against his son, was with great difficulty prevailed upon by Walpole to hear with an apparent kindness what the prince wished to communicate. On being admitted he made three requests: 1st, To serve a campaign on the Rhine, in the Imperial army. 2d, His settlement by a suitable marriage. 3d, An augmentation of his revenue, insinuating that he was in debt. The king shewed an inclination to comply with his last demand, but made no answer to the others. The prince, obliged to renounce all hopes of marrying his cousin, as the king of Prussia was no less averse to the union than George II., married on the 27th of April, 1736, the princess of Saxe Gotha, in whose beauty, accomplishments, and virtues, he forgot his former passion. The marriage of the heir apparent greatly increased his popularity; but, far from removing the unfortunate misunderstanding, it rather had a contrary tendency; and the breach was still farther widened by the intended interference of parliament. Walpole resolved to support the king in his just prerogative, against a measure no less unconstitutional than disrespectful; he lamented, however, that his majesty had imprudently delayed to settle a permanent allowance of 50,000*l.* on the prince, and a jointure on the princess. He used all his efforts to obtain a concession on these points, and finally succeeded. The prince was informed of it by a formal message delivered to him by the lord chancellor at the head of the lords of the cabinet. The prince desired them "to lay him with all humility at his majesty's feet, and to assure him, that he had, and ever should retain the utmost duty for his royal person; that he was very thankful

“ for any instance of his majesty’s goodness to him
“ or the princess, and for his gracious intention for
“ settling a jointure upon her royal highness ; but
“ that as to the message, the affair was now out of
“ his hands, therefore he could give no answer to it,
“ and was sorry for it.” When this answer was
reported to the king, he looked displeased, but
made no reply. At this juncture the motion above-
mentioned was made in the house of commons,
and strenuously supported by the whole opposition.
Sir Robert Walpole supported the prerogative of
the crown and the right of the king to dispose of
his revenue, without the interference of parliament,
and to suffer no controul in the management of his
family ; he acquainted the house with the king’s
message to the prince, and maintained that 50,000*l.*
a-year, exclusive of the revenue arising from the
duchy of Cornwall, was a competent allowance, and
as much as the king could afford out of his civil list.
The motion was negatived by a majority of only
234 against 204. The indiscretion of the prince in
bringing such an unconstitutional question before
parliament, the violence of his counsellors, and par-
ticularly the indecorous insinuations thrown out
against the queen in the course of the debates, highly
offended the king, and naturally increased the se-
verity of his behaviour towards the prince, who,
considering himself a state prisoner in the palace of
his father, pined for a release, and seized the first op-
portunity of emancipating himself from the controul
of his parents. The royal family being at Hampton
Court, the princess of Wales was seized with the
pangs of child-birth, and the prince, without the
least intimation to the king and queen, hurried her
away to St. James’s palace, where she was that night
delivered of a princess, before the queen or any
officers of state, whose attendance was requisite on
such occasions, could arrive. Next morning, when

the queen came to visit the princess of Wales, the prince apologized for his abrupt departure to her majesty, observing that the suddenness with which his wife was seized, rendered it necessary to obtain immediate assistance, and that it was thought more prudent to return to London than wait till the physicians and midwives could arrive at Hampton Court, which might be too late. He entreated the queen to explain his motives to the king, and expressed his intention of waiting on his majesty that very morning; but the queen advised him to delay his visit for a few days, in which he acquiesced. The king was so highly offended, that, far from being moved by this justification, he resolved to express his resentment in a manner no less public than that in which the indignity was offered. A new message was accordingly prepared to that purpose, and delivered to the prince with the same formality. In reply to the message the prince wrote a submissive letter, in which, after expressing his mortification at having displeased the king, he requested permission to wait upon his majesty the next morning. This request being rejected, he renewed it again and again, expressing his hopes and earnest desire of being restored to favour; but his entreaties had no effect, and the king adopted the violent resolution of dismissing the prince from his residence in the palace of St. James's. The chancellor and his friends having expressed their concern and delivered their opinion, that such a measure should be avoided, if possible, consistently with the king's honour, Walpole replied, that such was the king's final resolution. It was then proposed that a message should be sent to the prince, acquainting him with the kind of submission, and alterations in his conduct, which the king expected, as the terms of the reconciliation. But the proposal was rejected by sir

Robert Walpole, as likely to beget a paper war between the king and his son, which would be attended with still more fatal consequences than taking it *short at first*. The draught of the message was then taken into consideration. The chancellor persevered in arguing against the impropriety and harshness of the style, and on his representation some more gentle expressions were adopted in the message, which, after a recapitulation of all the prince's offences, concluded in these terms:—

“ Until you withdraw your confidence from those
“ by whose advice you are directed in your unwarrantable behaviour to me and to the queen; and
“ until you return to your duty, you shall not reside in my palace, which I will not suffer to be
“ the resort of them, who, under the appearance
“ of an attachment to you, foment the divisions
“ which you have made in my family, and thereby
“ weaken the common interest of the whole. In
“ this situation, I will receive no reply but when
“ your actions manifest a just sense of your duty
“ and submission, that may induce me to pardon
“ what at present I must justly resent. In the mean
“ time, it is my pleasure that you leave St. James's,
“ with all your family, when it can be done without
“ prejudice or inconvenience to the princess. I
“ shall for the present leave to her the care of my
“ grand-daughter until a proper time calls upon me
“ to consider of her education.” All farther application from the prince being ineffectual, he retired from the palace to Norfolk house, in St. James's square, where he took his residence, and his house became the centre of political opposition. The king accordingly issued an order, forbidding all persons who paid their court to the prince and princess of Wales, from being admitted into his presence at any of the royal palaces. In the course of this im-

portant and unfortunate transaction, the prince gave signs of high spirit and extreme sensibility, as it is recorded in a circumstantial narrative of it, left by lord Hardwicke. (*Hardwicke Papers.*) The most interesting particulars of this narrative have been selected in the Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole, (*vol. ii. chap. 48. from page 442 to 492.*)

The parliament is prorogued, June 21.

This year was marked by an event equally disastrous to the country and to the king, the death of queen Caroline. Her majesty had been for some time in a declining state of health; the disorder which occasioned her death was a rupture, which, from motives of delicacy, she was so imprudent as to conceal, even from the medical men who were called in to her relief. Judging from symptoms more or less equivocal, the physicians treated it as the gout, supposed to be in her stomach, and administered strong cordials, which produced an inflammation in the bowels, and soon after a mortification, of which she died, November 20, maintaining to the moment of her dissolution, serenity, temper, dignity, greatness of soul, and an unaffected submission to the ways of Providence. She sent her blessing and a message of forgiveness to her son, and told sir Robert Walpole, that she would have seen him with pleasure, but prudence forbade the interview, as it might embarrass and irritate the king. On her death-bed she testified her approbation of sir Robert Walpole's measures, and the high opinion she entertained of his capacity and rectitude. Turning to the minister, who, with the king, was standing by her bedside, she said to him, "I hope you will never desert the king, but continue to serve him with your usual fidelity;" and, pointing to the king, she added, "I recommend his majesty to you." No words can sufficiently express the sensibility and affection of George II. during

her illness, and his regret for her loss. He watched by her bedside with unabated attention, and could scarcely be prevailed on to take any rest till she expired; and for a long time after that melancholy event, he could not see sir Robert Walpole without bursting into tears. (*Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole*, vol. ii. chap. 49th. p. 492.)

Ann. 1738.

The attention of the whole nation was now engrossed by the complaints respecting the depredations, violence, and cruelties committed by the Spaniards against the English trade in America; and as the petitions and debates on this subject were the most important and almost the only business of this session, a concise, exact, and clear account of the origin, motives, and principal circumstances of those quarrels that finally terminated in the Spanish war, is the more necessary, that they are confusedly and inaccurately related by many historians.

The Spaniards having first discovered the new world, assumed an exclusive right to all the continent of America, particularly when Brazil fell under the dominion of Philip II. by his acquiring possession of Portugal. When the vast fabric of the Spanish empire began to moulder away under the feeble successors of Philip, the Dutch, French, and English formed settlements on the continent and islands of America. Spain, however, did not renounce her original title, and even in times of peace, hostilities seldom ceased in the West Indies; and were an inexhaustible source of disputes and complaints. The treaties of 1667 and 1670, besides confirming to the English the right of sovereign dominion of all lands they then possessed in the West Indies, regulated in the most specific terms the mode of intercourse in that quarter. The ninth

article in the treaty of 1670, forbade the respective subjects of each nation from trading with the colonies, or dominions of the other in the West Indies, yet permitted such commerce to be carried on according to a licence granted by either sovereign. Moreover, a great facility was given to the mutual intercourse, by the formal permission, that English ships should be allowed to put into Spanish harbours, if forced by storm or other inconveniencies. In the mean time the treaty of 1667, confirmed on that respect by all subsequent contracts, allowed the liberty of searching merchant ships sailing near the ports, and in the seas belonging to the respective countries, and of confiscating contraband goods; which expression alluded to arms and ammunition. This searching was exercised by the Spanish guardacostas in the American seas with great indulgence, as long as the great opposition and rivalry existing between France and Spain continued, as it inclined the latter to consider the English as her most important friend, and the most capable of protecting by their maritime force, her foreign dominions. Thence the flourishing, although illicit trade, which, by the connivance of Spain, was carried on between the English and Spanish plantations. But this quiet and prosperous state of things was totally altered by the accession of the house of Bourbon to the Spanish throne. The stipulated permission of trade, with the licence of the sovereign was annulled, and a contract, commonly called the *assiento treaty*, for supplying the Spanish colonies with a certain number of negroes, was granted to the South-Sea Company for thirty years, with the privilege of annually sending a single ship of a certain burthen, to Spanish America laden with European merchandize. Though the English retained the liberty of re-fitting and provisioning in the Spanish harbours, they were not allowed to carry on a friendly and com-

mercial intercourse. The guarda-costas exercised the searching of ships with more or less severity ; in their rigorous exertions to prevent illicit traffic, some illegal captures were made, and some acts of violence and cruelty occasionally committed. The distance from Europe, the delays of the Spanish tribunals, and the interest of the governors in declaring the vessels confiscated, as they had a share in the confiscations, rendered frequent redress of grievances extremely difficult, if not impracticable.

Other differences subsisted at that time between England and Spain. The right of cutting logwood in the bay of Campeachy, and collecting salt in the island of Tortuga, was called in question ; the limits of Carolina and Georgia were contested ; Spain claimed the part of those colonies which lay contiguous to Florida ; and the demand was made in such violent terms, that government, apprehensive of an attack on the province of Georgia, had ordered a battalion of troops to embark from Gibraltar for America.

At this juncture the ambitious queen of Spain still aspiring to the possession of Parma and Tuscany, which she considered as hereditary dominions, was dissatisfied with the peace ; and when on the death of John Garton, the last sovereign of the house of Medicis, Tuscany, according to the treaties, devolved on the duke of Lorraine, she resolved to revive her claim upon that duchy, and even made overtures to England to obtain her assistance, insinuating, that if granted, Spain should relinquish all claims on Gibraltar and Minorca, and accommodate all commercial differences to the full satisfaction of England. This violation of the most solemn treaties tending to re-kindle a general war in Europe, being rejected, the queen of Spain was more irritated than ever ; in conformity to orders from the court of Madrid, the guarda-costas became

more rigorous, and the repeated instances of their violence were transmitted to England. A petition was accordingly presented to the king by a large body of merchants, complaining of these depredations, and stating specific cases of illegal captures and confiscations. In consequence of their evidence, a spirited memorial was sent with their petition to the English minister at Madrid, with orders to present it to the king of Spain, to require his majesty to give effectual orders for punishing the persons guilty of these atrocities, and for granting immediate reparation to the British subjects, observing, that if, contrary to expectation, these instances should not have the desired effect; his Britannic majesty would be obliged to procure for his subjects that satisfaction, which they had a right to demand, by virtue of subsisting treaties and the law of nations. King Philip replied to the minister, that he would do any thing in his power to preserve the friendship of the king of England. Notwithstanding the pressing importunities of the British minister, who declared that nothing but immediate restitution and exemplary punishment could give satisfaction; the answer was not returned before the meeting of parliament; it even appeared, that the Spanish court did not view the subject in the same light as the English cabinet, and controverted many positions advanced in the memorial.

Such was the state of the contest between England and Spain at the opening of the session, January 24th. His majesty's speech was remarkably short, and recommended the dispatch of public business with prudence and unanimity. Both houses presented addresses of condolence on the queen's death. The state of affairs between Spain and Great Britain was soon after taken into consideration. On the 3rd of March, a petition was presented from divers

merchants, planters, and others, trading to, or interested in the British plantations in America, recapitulating all that had passed in consequence of former applications, and declaring that the Spaniards still continued their depredations, and carried them to a greater height of violence and cruelty; the house was daily assailed with petitions and papers relating in the most pathetic strain, the inhumanities committed upon the English taken prisoners in America, on board of trading vessels, and compelled to work in the Spanish dock yards and fortifications, with irons upon their legs, subsisting upon loathsome provisions, overrun with vermin, frequently tortured and imprisoned in dungeons. Several captains and seamen were examined at the bar of the house, and if full credit might be given to the witnesses, the facts were unquestionably proved. But they were not examined upon oath, and were not confronted with any evidence on the side of the Spaniards. They were induced by their own interest, and by the hopes of obtaining reparation, to exaggerate their injuries. They saw that it was popular to inveigh against the Spaniards, and were encouraged to render a disastrous tale more disastrous.

For a further elucidation of these proceedings, it is necessary to observe, that the principal view of the opposition was directed to improve the misunderstanding with Spain to such a degree, as to render the adjustment of the disputes impracticable; and by inflaming the nation with exaggerated accounts of Spanish cruelties and insults, to compel the minister to enter into a war, which they considered as the probable means of obtaining his removal. In answer to those, who, adopting that opinion, ventured to allege, that Walpole was afraid of a war, because peace was his only safety; he observed, "As to the common notion of a

“ minister’s being afraid to enter upon a war, I do
“ not understand upon what it can be grounded.
“ For my part, I could never see any cause either
“ from reason or from my own experience, to ima-
“ gine that a minister is not as safe in time of war
“ as in time of peace. Nay, if we are to judge by
“ reason alone, it is the interest of a minister, con-
“ scious of any mismanagement that there should
“ be a war ; because, by a war, the eyes of the
“ public are diverted from examining into his con-
“ duct ; nor is he accountable for the bad success
“ of a war, as he is for that of his administration.”

The Spanish affairs so much occupied the public attention, that all other considerations were totally overlooked, and notwithstanding the high national regard for the liberty of the press ; no notice was taken of the resolution unanimously passed for the enforcement of the standing order, prohibiting the publication of the debates while the house was sitting, as well as during the recess.

Among those who were examined at the bar of the house respecting the depredations and indignities of all sorts committed by the Spaniards, was one Jenkins, who seven years before was boarded by a guarda-costas, and according to the periodical papers of the times, the captain of the Spanish guarda-costas had put the men to the torture and was reported to have hanged up Jenkins three times, once with the cabin boy at his feet, and then to have cut off one of his ears and bid him carry it to his king. The effect of this ridiculous story, which had made little impression at the time, was proportionate upon the nation at large, to the impression of horror and vengeance it created in the house of commons, who would have eagerly adopted the most peremptory résolutions, had they not been opposed with great address by sir Robert Walpole. He agreed that the petitioners had fully.

proved their losses, that the depredations that had been committed by the guarda-costas, were contrary to the law of nations, to the treaties existing between England and Spain, to the undoubted rights and privileges of the British subjects, and deserved the highest resentment; "but still I think," said he, "if proper satisfaction and full reparation can be obtained by peaceable means, we ought not to involve the nation in a war, from the event of which, we have a great deal to fear, and the utmost we can hope for, from the most uninterrupted success, is a proper satisfaction for past injuries, and a proper security against our meeting with any such hereafter, which there are still hopes of gaining by negociation." The house agreed accordingly to an address, beseeching his majesty to use his endeavours to obtain effectual reparation for the insults and injuries sustained by his subjects, to the dishonour of his crown; assuring him, that in case his friendly instances should miscarry, the house would effectually support his majesty in taking such measures as honour and justice should make it necessary for him to pursue. The address voted in the upper house was still stronger, and both were most favourably answered by his majesty.

Another motion was made, May 5th, to bring in a bill under the plausible title of effectually securing and encouraging the trade to America. The intent of the act was to give the property of all prizes taken from the Spaniards after a declaration of war to the officers and seamen present in the action; head money, or 5*l.* for every Spaniard made prisoner at sea, was to be granted to the sailors; and the property of all places taken, was to be vested by the king's patent in the captors. The minister opposed this motion with a great strength of argument, pointed out its impropriety at this jun-

ture, and proved that such an act would amount to a declaration of war, and involve the country with all the commercial nations in Europe. The motion was negatived by a large majority, and a few days after this debate, the parliament was prorogued, May 20th. A fortnight after, the princess of Wales was delivered of a son, who was baptized under the name of George, (now king of England.) About the same time, a strong squadron under admiral Haddock, sailed for the Mediterranean; instructions were sent by government to the British merchants in the several sea-ports of Spain, to register all their effects with a notary in case of a rupture, and Georgia was supplied both with troops and stores for resisting the Spaniards, who threatened to invade it.

These rigorous measures induced the court of Madrid to send almost immediately such pacific instructions to the Spanish minister in England, that in the month of September, preliminaries were signed as the basis of a treaty of accommodation, or rather of that famous convention, which made so much noise in Europe, and almost ruined the internal tranquillity of England.

A resolution is taken by the city of London for building a magnificent mansion-house for their future lord mayors, which was founded the next year, October 23rd, and inhabited in 1752.

The act to discourage the retail of spirituous liquors, produced numberless tumults in the cities of London and Westminster, and so little regard was paid to this law, that in less than two years, more than 12,000 persons within the bills of mortality were convicted of having sold illegally gin or geneva. Nearly one-half of that number were cast in the penalty of 100*l.* and 3000 paid 10*l.* each for an exemption from being committed to the house of correction.

Ann. 1739.

The parliament met, February 1st. The king, in his speech informed both houses, that a convention was concluded and ratified between him and the king of Spain, who had obliged himself to make reparation to the British subjects for their losses, by certain stipulated payments, and that the plenipotentiaries were named for regulating within a limited time, all those grievances and abuses which had hitherto interrupted the commerce of Great Britain in the American seas; and for settling all matters of dispute in such a manner, as might for the future prevent or remove all new causes and pretences of complaint. The motion for an address of thanks encountered violent opposition in both houses, but was carried without a division in the house of lords, and at a great majority in the lower house. The convention being laid before the commons was referred to a committee, and its contents being published, a violent outcry was raised against the conditions. The convention was approved in the house of lords by a majority of 95 against 74, but a strong protest was entered into by 39 peers, and at the head of those who voted in opposition was the prince of Wales. In the house of commons, Walpole opened the debate, by a speech of two hours and a half, which he concluded by moving an address of thanks for the communication of the convention. The minority in their opposition appealed forcibly to the passions and feelings, and exhausted every topic which was calculated to inflame the public mind. After the warmest debates, frequently interrupted by several petitions against the convention, the address was carried by a majority of only 260 against 232.

It appeared, however, in the course of the de-

bate, that the minister's friends were the most powerful in the house; and the opposition thinking that they could make no further efforts against him with any probability of success, formed the resolution no less unconstitutional than improper and even ridiculous, of alarming the nation by their secession from their duty in parliament. Sir William Wyndham, who, at the instigation of Bolingbroke, advised this measure, introduced it into the house of commons by a very remarkable speech, in which he animadverted against those who had voted for the address, as being a faction against the liberties and properties of their fellow subjects. "I here, sir," said he, "bid a final adieu to this house, and appeal to a future, free, uninfluenced house of commons. Let it be the judge of my conduct and that of my friends, on this occasion. Mean time I shall conclude with doing that duty to my country I am still at liberty to perform, which is to pray for its preservation. May, therefore, that Power, which has so often and so visibly interposed in behalf of the rights and liberties of this nation, continue its care over us, at this worst and most dangerous junctures, whilst the insolence of enemies without, and the influence of corruption within, threaten the ruin of her constitution."

The insult offered to the house in calling the majority a faction, raised their indignation to such a degree, that one of them rose to move for commitment to the tower, when the minister, conscious that such a measure would create a dangerous ferment in the country, prevented it by rising himself, and representing in a very animated speech that the friends of the nation and the house were obliged to the *seceders* for thus pulling off the mask. "We can be upon our guard," said he, "against open rebellion, but it is difficult to guard against secret

“ traitors. . . . I am only afraid that they will not
“ be so good as their word, and that they will re-
“ turn. . . . But I hope their behaviour will unite all
“ true friends of the present happy establishment
“ of the crown in his majesty’s person and family
“ more firmly than ever, and that the gentlemen,
“ who, with good intentions, have been deluded
“ into the like measures, will awake from their de-
“ lusion, since the trumpet of rebellion is now au-
“ daciously sounded.” Several members of the
minority taking the hint, refused to desert their par-
liamentary station, and the applause they received
from their constituents, reflected tacitly on the con-
duct of the others, which was evidently unjusti-
fiable; as if the majority of the commons was real-
ly a faction, influenced or corrupted by the minis-
ter, they strengthened that faction by retiring from
the house: and if the constitution was in so great
danger as they pretended, their deserting the only
post where they could and should defend it to the
last extremity, was a flagrant, cowardly desertion
of their most important and sacred duty. In the
mean time, Walpole declared that no event had
ever relieved him from more embarrassments, or
supplied him with greater means of promoting the
real interests of the nation; that while he was
continually teased with the bickerings of the oppo-
sition, he could not introduce a single bill of the
most beneficial tendency, which would not meet
with resistance or expose him to obloquy; but
now, that the principal leaders of the minority had
retired from parliament, he would not let escape
such a favourable opportunity, to propose several
measures of the greatest advantage to the com-
merce and manufactures of the country. Many
important bills to that purpose were accordingly pass-
ed during the secession; the consequence of which
was, to the seceders, disappointment and speedy

repentance, to the country, wise and beneficial regulations, to Walpole, satisfaction and triumph, and to future ministers an imitable precedent for future secessions.

The princess of Wales was brought to bed of another prince, March 14th.

His majesty having renewed with the king of Denmark the treaty of subsidy expired in 1737, sent a message to the commons to be enabled to make good the engagements which he had thereby entered into, namely, to pay to his Danish majesty 250,000 crowns banco annually, on condition that he would keep during three years 5000 foot and 1000 horse in readiness for the service of Great Britain, so as to be always in a condition to march within two months after notice given. The king desired by another message, to be enabled to grant an annuity of 15,000*l.* per annum to his son the duke of Cumberland and his issue, and 24,000*l.* per annum to the four princesses his daughters. These two messages were complied with, without any objection on the latter, and with very little on the former. The commons voted besides, 500,000*l.* to his majesty for enabling him to make such further augmentation of his forces either by sea or land as the exigency of the affairs might require.

The supplies being voted, and the funds established, the parliament was prorogued, June 14th.

The face of affairs was, at this period, totally changed in Spain, and the court of Madrid, provoked at the haughty and insulting language of the English parliament, seemed fully determined not to fulfil the terms of the convention. The king of Spain himself bitterly complained to the English minister of the insult offered to his honour, by the continuance of the British squadron in the Mediterranean, and declared that as the South-Sea Company refused to pay the arrears due for their intro-

ducing negroes in the West Indies, he thought himself at liberty to revoke the *assiento* contract, and to seize their effects as an indemnification for those arrears which were pretended to amount to 68,000*l*. It was also intimated by the Spanish ministers, that if the claim of searching ships in the American seas, was not admitted as the basis of future negotiations, there could be no occasion for any further conference. This intelligence was no sooner received in England. than the most vigorous preparations were made for offensive operations, and Horace Walpole embarked for Holland to require the quota of troops stipulated in case of a war. In the mean time the English minister at Madrid was directed to insist on a full renunciation on the part of Spain, of all claims of searching British ships, and on the immediate execution of all that had been stipulated by the convention. The English minister in delivering this message, announced that his majesty had adopted a resolution of granting his subjects liberty to make reprisals on the Spaniards, and that he was ordered to leave Spain if he did not immediately receive a satisfactory answer. The reply amounted to a declaration of war, and the Spanish court prepared for hostilities with unusual activity. Letters of reprisal were accordingly issued against Spain; a great fleet assembled at Spithead; an embargo laid on all merchant ships outward bound, and a reinforcement sent to the Mediterranean squadron. The king had issued orders for augmenting his land forces, and raising a body of marines; a great number of men of war were put in commission, and admiral Vernon was sent to the West Indies to take the command of the squadron in those seas. His catholic majesty having ordered all the British ships in his harbours to be seized and detained, the king

denounced war against Spain on the 23rd day of October.

The declaration of war excited a general enthusiasm in England. The bells were pealed in all the churches of London; a numerous procession attended the heralds in the city; buzzes and acclamations resounded on all sides. The stocks, which had been on the decline, rose instantaneously. The possessions of Spain, in the West Indies, and the rich mines of Peru and Potosi, were considered as an easy prey to the British adventurers. Mr. de Bussy, the French ambassador, who had left England some time before, was sent over to make an offer of his most christian majesty's mediation. He was answered, that things were now too far gone for an accommodation to take place, and that of all the powers of Europe, his most christian majesty was the least qualified for the office of a mediator, as his ministers at the Hague, and elsewhere, had publicly declared, that in case of war, France was obliged by treaties and by other ties, to assist Spain both by sea and land.

The seceders, pretending that the difficulties which had hindered their attendance in parliament, were now removed by the declaration of war, resolved to resume their functions at the next session, which opened November 15th. The king in his speech, acquainted both houses with the present state of affairs; complained of the public heats and animosities, and invited them to give him their advice at that critical and important juncture. Loyal addresses were voted by both houses on this occasion. Walpole, in the debate, treated the late secession not only with severity, but with great contempt and indignation. He observed, that it was owing to it that things had proceeded with so much unanimity towards the close of the last session, and

that more laws had past for the benefit of the people than ever were known to pass in so short a time.

Ann. 1740.

The king sends a message to both houses, March 6th, to acquaint them he was about to marry the princess Mary, his majesty's fourth daughter, to prince Frederic, son of the Landgrave of Hesse; expressing his hope, that the commons will enable him to give a suitable portion to the princess. They unanimously vote to grant 40,000*l.* for that purpose. A ship, dispatched from the West Indies by admiral Vernon, brings an account of his having taken Portobello in the isthmus of Darien, and destroyed all the fortifications of the place. All the king's demands are granted by the commons; they provide for 28,000 land forces, besides 6000 marines; they vote the subsidy to Denmark; they enable his majesty to equip a very powerful navy, and to defray certain extraordinary expenses not specified in the estimates. To answer these grants, they impose a land-tax of four shillings in the pound, and empower the king to deduct 1,200,000*l.* from the sinking fund. The expense of the war amounted this year to 4,059,722*l.*

The session was closed April 29th. The winter was nearly as severe this year as it had been in 1709; the hard frost began at Christmas, and continued to the latter end of February with the greatest intensity. The river Thames was covered with such a crust of ice, that a multitude of people dwelt upon it in tents, and a great number of booths were erected for the entertainment of the populace.

A formidable fleet of 27 ships of the line, besides frigates, fire ships, &c. &c. is sent to reinforce admiral Vernon for an intended attack of the northern

coast of New Spain. An unsuccessful attempt is made on Carthagena; the captures made at sea, far from having a good effect, create animosities between the soldiers and sailors; another attempt, no less unsuccessful, on the island of Cuba, completes the disappointment and impatience of the fleet, among whom sickness raged, and a great mortality prevailed; and this powerful armament, which had fixed the attention of all Europe, returns to England without having performed any thing to compensate for the expense of its equipment.

In the beginning of May the king set out for Hanover, after having appointed a regency. A few days after his departure the marriage of the princess Mary was celebrated by proxy, and she embarked for the continent in the month of June.

In September, a small squadron, commanded by commodore Anson, set sail for the South Sea, in order to act against the enemy on the coast of Chili and Peru, and co-operate occasionally with admiral Vernon.

The humane and important scheme of erecting an hospital for the reception of foundlings and exposed children, was prosecuted with the utmost alacrity and success; the trustees appointed by the royal patent were composed of the first names in the kingdom; the duke of Bedford was the president.

Sir Robert Walpole had lost, by the death of the queen, a powerful and affectionate patroness, who secured to him, not only the king's attachment and confidence, but his constant compliance with all the opinions of the favourite minister. But his majesty, naturally inclined by his martial disposition to apply for redress rather to arms than to negotiations, being no longer under the gentle irresistible influence of the queen, soon discovered a gradually increasing reluctance to the pacific schemes of Walpole, which did

not fail to encourage some of the other ministers, and particularly the duke of Newcastle, to oppose occasionally his measures; and soon after the king's departure for Hanover the division in the cabinet increased to so high a degree, that at one time the continuance of Walpole and the duke of Newcastle seemed impossible, so as to determine Walpole to obtain his own dismissal even in the king's absence. A reconciliation was, however, effected by the interference of lord Hardwicke, and promises were made on both sides to act with renewed cordiality. But promises of rival statesmen and reconciliations of ministers are very seldom, if ever, to be relied on. Although the dissolution of the ministry was prevented, yet the same jealousy still continued, and its immediate consequence was to strengthen the opposition by the desertion of some friends of Walpole and the cooling of many more.

Under these critical circumstances the parliament was assembled, November 18. The king assured both houses, that he was determined to prosecute the war vigorously, even though France should join with Spain, as her late conduct seemed to support this supposition; he therefore recommended to their consideration the necessary supplies for putting the nation in such a posture that it should have nothing to fear from any emergency; he finally insisted on the necessity of adopting some proper regulations for preventing the exportation of corn, and for more effectual methods to man the fleet at this juncture. The commons having voted their address of thanks, brought in a bill for prohibiting the exportation of corn, and another for the encouragement and increase of seamen, and for the better and speedier manning of the fleet. In the house of lords, the king was no sooner withdrawn than the duke of Argyle suddenly rose, before any of the ministerial peers could move for the usual address,

and, after reprobating the modern custom of echoing back in the address the speech from the throne, he arraigned with great acrimony the war, in which he declared that no one right step had been taken, either in the commencement or in the prosecution; and concluded by proposing to revive the ancient mode of addressing, to assure his majesty that they would stand by him with their lives and fortunes in the prosecution of the war; and as a further proof of their duty and affection to his sacred person, royal family and government, to declare that they would exert themselves in their high capacity of hereditary council of the crown (to which all other councils were subordinate and accountable), in such a manner as might best tend to promote the true interest of his majesty and of the country in the present juncture. This address, though seconded, was negatived by a great majority, and an address according to the ordinary form was voted.

The princess of Wales was brought to bed of another princess, December 30.

Ann. 1741.

The principal scheme of the opposition in this memorable session was to increase the unpopularity of the minister, by imputing to him all the miscarriages and ill success of the war. With this view an open and personal attack upon him was resolved. On the 11th of February, Mr. Sandys told him, that he thought it an act of common attention to inform him, that he should on Friday next bring an accusation of several articles against him. No less than 450 members attended the house on that important occasion. The debate was opened at one o'clock.

The heads of accusation were: 1st, In regard to foreign affairs, the departing from the principles of

the grand alliance, which tended to depress the inveterate enemy of Great Britain, the house of Bourbon, and the abandoning her old and natural ally, the house of Austria. 2dly, Respecting domestic affairs, the debts of the army, swelled from 400,000*l.* to above two millions, and debentures issued for that sum, of which, part had been discharged from the produce of the sinking fund. 3dly, In the conduct of the war, the most culpable neglect of convoys at home, and of sending timely the necessary supplies to the several squadrons. After having long expatiated on these topics, without specifying any fact, supported by any proof, Mr. Sandys concluded by moving, that an humble address should be presented to his majesty, that he would be graciously pleased to remove sir Robert Walpole from his majesty's presence and counsels for ever. The next motion was, that he should be ordered to withdraw; but the house appearing convinced of the absurdity and injustice of the proposal, it was withdrawn; and the house resolved, that the minister should hear all the charges brought against him, and should be the last to reply. A long and violent debate then took place on the main question. Walpole's answer was so completely justificative, and his speech made such a deep impression on the house, that the motion was negatived by a majority of 290 against 106.

A similar attack, made the same day in the house of lords, with more pertinacity and vigour than in the commons, experienced the same fate.

The most important measure to be noticed in this session, was the grant of a subsidy to the queen of Hungary, which finally involved England in a war with France. The king, in his speech from the throne, had informed the parliament, that, pursuant to his treaty with the late emperor, he had resolved to adhere to the engagements he had contracted, in order to maintain the balance of power

and the liberties of Europe on that important occasion. The war having since broke out, and been carried into part of the Austrian dominions, the queen of Hungary had made a requisition of the 12,000 men, which, according to the treaty, were to be furnished by Great Britain; and the king had requested the kings of Sweden and Denmark to keep in readiness the 6000 men which each of them were obliged to furnish, to march to the assistance of her Hungarian majesty. The king was also concerting such farther measures as might obviate the dangerous designs and attempts that might be forming; and as circumstances might occur, which should require still larger expenses, his majesty thought it proper to go to the house of lords, April 8, and to lay before his parliament these important considerations, desiring their concurrence in enabling him to contribute in the most effectual manner to the support of the queen of Hungary, as well as of the liberties and balance of power in Europe. A motion was made for an address in answer to the king's demand, and after some warm debates, in which the opposition maintained, that the motion was inconsistent with the trust reposed in the commons by the constitution, which confined their allegiance, towards the king of England, and did not extend to the elector of Hanover, the motion was carried without a division, and an aid of 300,000*l.* to the queen of Hungary was immediately voted.

This grant frustrated the wise plan of sir Robert Walpole for securing the pacification of Germany, by forming a great confederacy against France. Conscious that all alliances to that purpose would prove ineffectual unless Prussia was included, he endeavoured to induce the queen of Hungary to enter into an accommodation with his Prussian majesty. Horace Walpole had frequent conferences to that purpose with count Ostein, the Imperial minister

in London, and represented to him in such strong arguments the fatal consequences to be apprehended from the hostility of the king of Prussia, and the good effects to be derived from his alliance, as fully convinced the count, who promised to use all means in his power to persuade the queen to close with the propositions of Prussia. But the vote of 300,000*l.* had scarcely passed the commons, when lord Carteret assured Ostein that this grant was not owing to the good disposition of the ministry, but extorted by the unanimous call of parliament and the general voice of the people. The count changed accordingly his opinion, and instead of seconding the efforts of Walpole towards an accommodation between her Hungarian majesty and the king of Prussia, he encouraged her to reject all his demands, assuring her that the British nation would pour out the last drop of their blood, and spend their last penny in support of her cause.

In consequence of her inflexibility, the king of Prussia continuing his inroads, conquered the remaining part of Silesia; the grand confederacy, planned and consolidated by France, attacked the Austrian dominions on all sides. The elector of Bavaria took Passau and Lintz, summoned Vienna to surrender, conquered Bohemia, was inaugurated king at Prague, and expected every moment his elevation to the Imperial throne. The French armies poured like a torrent over Germany, and threatening to spread themselves over Westphalia, awed the electorate of Hanover, compelled George II. to desert Maria Theresa, and accept a neutrality. (*Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole, vol. iii. chap. 57.*)

On the 25th of April the king put an end to the last session of this parliament, after thanking them for the firmness they had shewn in the support of Austria, and of the measures of government, ex-

pressing his confidence in the love of his people, and that they would give him fresh proofs of their affection in the choice of their representatives. Writs were issued for electing a new house of commons, and the king set out for Hanover, notwithstanding a strong remonstrance of sir Robert Walpole, whose situation was more critical than ever, as the late advantage he had obtained over his enemies had much more exasperated than discouraged them. The new struggle of the contending parties, which was to terminate in his removal, was already commenced towards the elections, which he had to manage while at variance with the majority of the cabinet, and in the midst of an unsuccessful war, the misfortunes of which were as generally as unjustly imputed to him. The violent opposition which the court party met with in the elections of London and Westminster, diffused such a spirit all over the kingdom that in a few weeks it was evident, that at the meeting of the next parliament, the minister could not reckon twenty sure votes in his favour.

Admiral Vernon had by this time received new reinforcements at Jamaica, and now found himself at the head of twenty-nine ships of the line, with almost an equal number of frigates and other ships of smaller description, plentifully supplied with all kinds of stores and provisions. The number of seamen amounted to 15,000; that of the land forces did not fall short of 12,000. With this powerful armament, the most formidable that had ever visited those seas, admiral Vernon proceeded to Carthage, which, since his last attempt, had been strongly fortified, and the garrison reinforced. Lord Cathcart, who headed the land forces, being carried off by a dysentery, the command devolved on general Wentworth, an officer without experience and resolution. The admiral and general entertained a

heartly contempt for each other, and took all opportunities of expressing their mutual dislike ; and each proved more eager for the disgrace of his rival than zealous for the honour of the nation. Thence the miscarriage of this expedition, which was no sooner known in England than the kingdom was filled with murmurs and discontent. Admiral Vernon was, however, reinforced from England by four ships of war and about 3000 soldiers, but he performed nothing worthy of the reputation he had acquired.

The king returned to England in the month of October, and the parliament met December 4. The king mentioned in his speech the state of the war with Spain, that had been undertaken by the representations of his parliament, and carried on in America according to their recommendation. He added, that pursuant to their advice, he had, ever since the death of the late emperor, exerted himself in support of the house of Austria, and expressed his hopes, that though his endeavours had not hitherto had the desired effect, a just sense of the approaching danger would produce a more favourable turn in the councils of other nations. His majesty then exhorted his parliament to put the nation in a condition of assisting its friends, and defeating its enemies in any attempt they might make against him or his dominions.

The customary address being proposed, the opposition objected to a clause for thanking his majesty for his royal care in prosecuting the war against Spain, and the minister weakly agreed, for the sake of unanimity, to omit that clause ; and the address, conceived in very general and even vague terms, gave no assurance to his majesty that they would assist him in defending his electoral dominions if attacked. The coolness of this address naturally led the interested followers of the minister to suspect

that his power was declining, and prepared them to desert him. He repelled with unusual feebleness the intemperate and personal attacks levelled against him; he however declared, that if his accusers would name a day for inquiring into the state of the nation, he would second the motion. This challenge was accepted, and the 21st of January was appointed for that purpose.

The great point on which both parties exerted their respective strength, was the decision on contested elections, which, at the opening of this parliament, were much more numerous than usual. Every nerve was strained on both sides in favour of their friends. The minister's expectations were very sanguine in that respect, but they were frustrated by the activity of the opposition, the lukewarmness of many of his real friends, and treachery of his pretended partizans. Several unsuccessful candidates, who had depended on his support, withdrew their petitions. But his fate was nearly decided by the determination on the Westminster election, which, owing to the undue interference of the sheriffs, had turned in favour of the court party. On the petition of the two rejected members the election was declared void, and the returning officer was ordered to be taken into custody. On the 24th of December the house adjourned to the 18th of January, and that short interval was employed by the minister in attempts to strengthen his party, but all his efforts were ineffectual.

The amount of the national debt, December 31, was 46,956,146*l.* 3*s.* 5½*d.*

Ann. 1742.

During the recess Walpole endeavoured to seduce the prince of Wales from his party. Being informed that the opposition intended to renew the

motion for increasing the establishment of the prince, he prevailed on the king, not without great difficulty, to offer an addition of 50,000*l.* to his annual income, and to insinuate hopes that his debts should be paid, provided he would not oppose the measures of government. A message to that purpose was conveyed to the prince by the bishop of Oxford, at the instance of lord Cholmondeley, and by command of the king. The prince, after due expressions of duty and affection, declared that he considered the message as coming from lord Cholmondeley, and not from the king, and therefore would not listen to any proposal of similar import, so long as sir Robert Walpole continued at the head of administration.

The resignation of the minister was now considered as certain both by his friends and enemies. On the 21st of January was made the celebrated motion for inquiring into the state of the nation, and for referring to a secret committee the papers relating to the war. In this debate the minister was roused to the most animated exertions, and exceeded himself. He evinced such a consummate knowledge of foreign affairs as astonished the house. However, notwithstanding his efforts, and those of his friends, the motion against him was negatived by a majority of three only, in the fullest house known for many years, for 503 members voted.

At length opposition finally triumphed; the decision of a contested election being carried against the minister by a majority of 241 against 225, he declared that he should never again sit in that house. Next day, February 3, the house adjourned at the king's command to the 18th. On the 9th sir Robert Walpole was created earl of Orford, and on the 11th he resigned. The king did not consent to it until the minister himself expressed his earnest desire of retreating. The interview, when he took

leave of his kind grateful master, was highly affecting. On kneeling down to kiss his majesty's hand, the king burst into tears. The ex-minister was so moved with such an instance of regard, that he continued for some time in the same posture; and the king himself was so affected, as to be unable to raise him from the ground. At length, when he rose, the king, with a faltering voice, testified his regret for the loss of so faithful a counsellor, expressed his gratitude for his long services, and his hopes of still receiving his advice on important occasions. A truly noble and interesting scene, no less honourable to the prince than to the minister. (*Lord Hartington to the Duke of Devonshire.—Correspondence.*)

On the resignation of Walpole, all the places he possessed were offered to Mr. William Pulteney, with the power of forming his own administration, on the sole condition that sir Robert Walpole should not be prosecuted; which he refused, observing, that should his inclination induce him to take that engagement, it might not be in his power to fulfil it, as the heads of parties were like the heads of snakes, which are carried on by their tails. The only method to conciliate him, was to submit apparently to all his demands, and to trust the safety of Walpole to future exigencies. His resignation was soon followed by the reconciliation of the king with the prince of Wales; and this happy event, together with the change in the ministry, were celebrated with public rejoicings all over the kingdom. The prince granted a private audience to sir Robert Walpole, and promised his protection against any attack upon his life or fortune.

Mr. Pulteney, who had flattered himself to direct the new administration, without acting personally any part in it, would accept of no place according to his former engagements, and contented himself

with being restored to the dignity of privy counselor. Mr. Sandys was appointed chancellor of the exchequer; the earl of Wilmington, first lord of the treasury; lord Harrington, lord president; and lord Carteret, secretary of state; the duke of Argyle, master of the ordnance and colonel of the blue guards; the duke of Cumberland, colonel of the first, and the duke of Marlborough, colonel of the second regiment of foot guards. These appointments, though finally settled, were not known when a great meeting of all the gentlemen in the late opposition was held, to deliberate upon the means of bringing the late minister to justice, and of carrying into execution the great constitutional points they had so long contended for. The coldness of Mr. Pulteney and others on these points, gave some suspicions to those who were not in the secret, and the meeting concluded with a resolution of appearing at court, which they accordingly did, in a body.

In the mean time, an extraordinary ferment began to pervade the whole nation. Every petty borough, whose representative had opposed the late minister, considered itself as the prime cause of his removal, and thought it had a right to dictate to parliament. Petitions, or rather imperious addresses, poured from all sides. The place and pension bill, the repeal of the septennial act, the revival of triennial, if not annual, parliaments, the suppression of a standing army, the abolition of almost all taxes; but, above all, vengeance against the late minister and his adherents, were clamoured every where.

The present ministers now strenuously opposed those very bills which they had so long vigorously promoted. Such flagrant inconsistencies frequently occurring in the changes of administration, without throwing any discredit on the opposition, evince that the impossibility, or at least, the great difficulty

of regulating the elections so as to have parliaments entirely composed of independent members, had already reconciled the nation with the necessity of having a *systematic opposition*, which reduced the individual consistency of every member to voting regularly with the side of the house where they sat.

The king resolving to make a powerful diversion in the Netherlands, orders 16,000 effective men to be embarked for that country, under the command of the earl of Stair, appointed at the same time ambassador extraordinary to the states-general, to persuade them to co-operate vigorously in his majesty's plan; but they resolve to adhere to their neutrality.

As Walpole had preserved in his fall the king's esteem, confidence, and protection, the animosity and apprehensions of his enemies were not abated, and nothing short of his utter ruin could satisfy their rage. The popular outcry was, that the nation was betrayed; that an infamous compromise had been made between the new ministers and the old, for screening sir Robert Walpole. Strong charges against his administration were daily published with the utmost aggravations, while the arguments to disprove the charges were, through the spirit of the times, entirely disregarded; and such was the temper of the house of commons, that the most frivolous circumstances were swelled into proofs of guilt. The cry for justice on the late minister, was re-echoed all over the nation in a fresh set of instructions that came up from all quarters to the members of the house. A motion made by lord Limerick, to institute an inquiry into the conduct of Walpole during the last twenty years, had been rejected by a majority of no more than 244 against 242. The same motion was renewed four days after, except that the inquiry was limited to the last ten years.

Though this motion was much less exceptionable than the former, as it was founded only in popular clamours and vague suspicions, without particularizing any act of guilt, and especially for measures legally sanctioned by parliament, the debate was very long. The committee, however, as moved for, was carried by a majority of 252 against 245, and was voted to consist of twenty-one persons, and to have a power to send for persons, papers, and records, and to examine in the most solemn manner such persons as they thought proper.

Armed with such exterior powers, the committee applied with indefatigable diligence to the inspection of the treasury books and papers. They examined many persons, who were supposed to have been the private agents of the minister in his pretended schemes of corruption, bribery, and dilapidation of the public revenue. But it soon appeared, that they had advanced accusations which they could not prove. They attributed the inefficacy of their inquiries to the arts and obstinacy of the ex-minister's friends and inferior agents, several of whom had refused to answer some questions as tending to accuse themselves. They moved accordingly, for a bill, enacting, that all persons who should faithfully disclose, to the best of their knowledge, all such matters and things as they should be examined into, concerning the inquiry, should be thereby indemnified and discharged from all forfeitures and punishments, which they should or might incur, by means of any thing which they should so faithfully declare of all matters relating to the conduct of the earl of Orford for ten years last past. This inquisition bill was carried in the house of commons by a majority of 228 against 216; but rejected in the house of lords by a majority of 62, and with the qualifications it deserved. "This bill," said lord chancellor

Hardwicke, " is calculated to make a defence impossible, to deprive innocence of its guard, and to let loose oppression and perjury upon the world. It is a bill to dazzle the wicked with a prospect of security, and to incite them to purchase an indemnity for one crime by the perpetration of another. It is a bill to confound the notions of right and wrong, to violate the essence of our constitution, and to leave us without any certain security for our property or rule for our actions."

The rejection of the bill by the house of lords was received with such displeasure by the inveterate enemies of the ex-minister in the house of commons, that a motion was made, "That the lords refusing to concur with the commons of Great Britain, in an indemnification necessary to the effectual carrying on the inquiry now depending in parliament, was an obstruction to justice, and might prove fatal to the liberties of the nation." However, this resolution, which must have created a breach between the two houses, was thrown out by a majority of 52.

The sum of 500,000*l.* is granted by parliament for the assistance of the queen of Hungary; 42,000 seamen and 62,500 landsmen are voted for the service of the current year; the subsidies to Denmark and Hesse Cassel, are provided for; as well as the whole expence for the year, amounting to 5,723,537*l.* raised by the land tax at four shillings in the pound, by the malt tax, by one million from the sinking fund, by annuities granted upon it for 800,000*l.* and a loan of 1,600,000*l.* from the bank.

The great business of the session being over, the parliament was prorogued, July 15th. The king in his speech, acquainted both houses, that a treaty of peace was concluded between the queen of Hungary and Prussia, under his mediation, and that the

late successes of the Austrian arms were in a great measure owing to the generous assistance of the British nation.

The day on which parliament was prorogued, Mr. Pulteney was called to the house of peers by the title of earl of Bath, after having lost all his popularity and influence, in less than five months from the time he had driven sir Robert Walpole from the helm of government.

The term of the subsidy treaty with the king of Denmark expiring, he refused to renew it, and became subsidiary to France on more advantageous conditions.

Admiral Mathews is sent with seven ships of the line to reinforce the Mediterranean fleet, and take the command of it. On his arrival, captain Norris, who was upon a cruize, hearing that five Spanish gallies were then lying at a small French port near Toulon, blocked them up, and on their beginning to fire upon him, he burned them all. Admiral Mathews immediately dispatched a squadron and four bomb vessels to the bay of Naples, with a message from his majesty, to require the king of Naples not only to withdraw his troops from acting in conjunction with those of Spain, but to promise in writing, not to give them any further assistance, intimating, that if his Sicilian majesty should delay giving the proposed satisfaction, he had orders to bombard Naples. This alternative hastened a full compliance with his demand. He likewise ordered the British consul at Genoa to require from the senate their hindering their subjects from carrying any provisions to the Spanish squadron and the coasts of Provence, and to deny a passage through their territories to the Spaniards. The answer of the senate appearing evasive, the commander of the British squadron made free with the Genoese shipping and territories. They burnt all magazines of

provisions wherever they could find them within the republic's dominions.

War continued in America without producing any event worth mentioning, owing to the obstinate dissension between admiral Vernon and general Wentworth. Both were recalled to England in the month of September, and were respectively succeeded by two officers no less incompatible with one another, governor Trelawney and admiral Ogle.

The parliament met on the 16th of November ; the king acquainted both houses that he had sent a considerable body of troops from England to Flanders ; that he had in concert with his allies sent 16,000 of his electoral troops thither, with the Hessians in British pay, to form such a force in conjunction with the Austrian troops as might be of service to the common cause at all events. He extolled the magnanimity and fortitude of the queen of Hungary, as well as the resolute conduct of the king of Sardinia, and that prince's strict adherence to his engagements though attacked in his own dominions. He attributed to the councils of Great Britain the change of the affairs in the north, which had appeared by the requisition made by Sweden of his good offices for procuring a peace between that nation and Russia. He mentioned the defensive alliances he had concluded with the Czarina, and with the king of Prussia, as events which could not have been expected, if Great Britain had not manifested a seasonable spirit and vigour in assisting her ancient allies and maintaining the liberties of Europe.

Loyal addresses are voted by both houses.

The motion for appointing a committee to enquire into the conduct of the earl of Orford during the last ten years, is revived, and rejected by a majority of 253 against 186.

The pay of the Hanoverian troops gives occasion

to long and warm debates. The act of settlement is referred to, as providing against Great Britain being ever engaged in a war on account of the dominions belonging to her king on the continent. The opposition maintains, that the present war has no other object than the preservation of Hanover, under the delusive pretence of assisting Austria, as the Hanoverian troops, though in the pay of England, could not act against the elector of Bavaria now chosen emperor, without exposing the king to be put at the ban of the empire, which was confirmed by the neutrality he had lately stipulated for the electorate of Hanover. Notwithstanding the plausibility of these arguments, the pay of the Hanoverian troops is voted in both houses at a great majority.

The amount of the national debt, December 31st, was 48,915,047*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*

Ann. 1743.

The commons vote 23,610 effective men for the land forces; 11,550 marines; and the sums necessary for defraying the charges of them as well as the necessary expenses for the service of the year, according to the estimates; and besides, a sum of 500,000*l.* towards enabling his majesty to concert proper measures, and form such alliances, or enter into such engagements with other powers as he shall judge necessary for the support of the house of Austria, and restoring the balance of power in Europe. All these sums, including one million to be taken from the sinking fund, amounted to 6,031,092*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*

The gin-act, imposing a duty of twenty shillings a gallon upon spirituous liquors, had increased the fraud to such a degree, that though the consumption was greater, the produce of the tax upon spirits

was reduced without any advantage either for the health or the morals of the people. So that it was found more profitable to repeal that bill and impose an additional duty of sixpence for every gallon of low wines and spirits, to be paid by the distillers or makers. But the passing of this bill was attended with considerable debates in both houses, and by a strong protest signed by 24 peers.

On the 21st of April, the king put an end to the session, and having appointed a regency, set out for the continent with the duke of Cumberland and lord Carteret. They arrived, June 19th at Aschaffenburg, where lord Stair had established his head quarters. His majesty found his army, amounting to above 40,000 men, full of spirits, and eager to fight, but upon the whole in a deplorable situation for want of subsistence, which could not be remedied but by retreating to Hanau, and joining the two bodies of the Hessians and Hanoverians in the electoral pay, who had reached that place, and were in danger of being intercepted by the French. On the 26th of June, the allied army began to march at break of day in two columns. They had no sooner quitted Aschaffenburg, than the French took possession of it. As it appeared from their motions that they intended to attack the rear of the allied army in its retreat, his Britannic majesty took his post in the rear. They had not marched above three leagues, than they perceived the French passing the river, so as to be on the same side with the allies, who made a sudden halt. Such of the English troops that had in their way taken possession of the village of Dettingen, abandoned it, and fell back to the main body of the army. The French immediately seized that village, fortified it, as they did the banks of a rivulet which run from the mountains upon the right of the allies, whose retreat was thus cut off on that side as on their left by

the river Maine, in the rear by Aschaffenburg, and in front by the army, whose position was inexpugnable. Mareschal de Noailles had made this formidable disposition of his army to oblige the allies to attack him at an immense disadvantage.

The king, conscious of his dangerous situation, displayed a masterly military skill, in the way he drew up his army in order of battle, which could not, however, have prevented its sustaining a great loss, if not total ruin, had it not been for the impetuosity of the duke de Gramont, colonel of the French guards, and lieutenant-general of the army; who not being acquainted with the plan of the mareschal, passed with 12,000 men the defiles they were so advantageously possessed of, and gave the allies an opportunity of fighting them upon more equal terms, though still terribly raked by the French artillery.

Thus began that famous battle of Dettingen, in which the fortune of the day was fixed by the spirited courage of king George, who, drawing his sword, placed himself at the head of the British and Hanoverian infantry; rode down the line, exhorting the troops and leading them to the posts of greatest danger. The duke of Cumberland valiantly seconded his royal father, in the hottest of the battle; he had a horse shot under him, and was wounded in the calf of the leg. Mareschal de Noailles, who had crossed the river, the better to observe the situation of the allies, beheld with grief and astonishment the motion of his troops. He recrossed the river with all the haste possible, but found the battle irretrievably lost; and ordered a retreat, which, owing to the panic that had seized his troops, was executed with great precipitation.

The loss of the French amounted to about 6000 men, and that of the allies to about 2500. It has been to this day a matter of great controversy,

whether the allies were to be blamed or not for not having pursued the advantages they might have gained by this victory. It seems, however, that natural, political, and military motives concurred to stop the pursuit. 1, The soldiers had for some days received very little subsistence at Aschaffenburg, and their horses still less; they were come off a long march, had been many hours under arms, and were so exhausted at the end of the battle, that they were obliged to leave their dead and wounded upon the field. 2, It was known that the king of Prussia, if he found the English and the allies grew too powerful, would immediately declare for the French; and many, even of the protestant princes, began to express their uneasiness on the same account. 3, The enemy had still an army superior to that of the allies; they might have formed ambuscades in the woods, to which great part of them had retreated, and the passing the Maine in the sight of the enemy, who were well provided with artillery, might have exposed the allies to lose all the fruits of their victory.

A treaty is signed at Worms, September 2nd, by the plenipotentiaries of the queen of Hungary, the kings of Great Britain, and of Sardinia, by which several concessions are granted by the queen of Hungary to his Sardinian majesty, who renounces all claims on the duchy of Milan, and agrees that his troops shall act in concert with those of her majesty under his command, when he shall be there in person for repelling the invasion of the Spaniards upon Italy. The king of great Britain engages to keep a strong squadron in the Mediterranean for the service of the common cause; and to furnish to the king of Sardinia, as long as the war, and the occasion for it shall continue, a subsidy of 280,000*l.* a year, to be paid every three months. The king of Sardinia, and the queen of Hungary, in gratitude

for the generous concern of his Britannic majesty, for the public security, for their own, and for that of Italy in particular, confirm to the British subjects the advantages of commerce and navigation, and promise to secure them still further, as far as it shall be found reasonable and practicable, by a specific treaty, whenever his Britannic majesty shall require it of them. This treaty is ratified by the regency of London, September 20th.

The princess Louisa embarks for Holland in her way to Hanover, where she arrives October 27th; and is married to the prince royal of Denmark. The princess of Wales is delivered of a prince, November 14th; christened under the name of William Henry.

The British fleet in America, under sir Chaloner Ogle, attempts, without success, several attacks against the Spanish colonies.

Upon his majesty's return to England, November 15th, the city of London congratulated him in an address upon the birth of the young prince, and the marriage of princess Louisa; but they omitted all mention of the victory of Dettingen, which they considered rather as a lucky escape, as some members of the opposition were pleased to call it.

The parliament met December 1st, and both houses, in their dutiful and affectionate addresses, did not fail to congratulate his majesty on the glorious success of his arms, expressing at the same time the anxious concern which filled the breasts of his faithful subjects upon the dangers to which his sacred person had been exposed. But in the next debate, they discovered a great increase of jealousy, on account of some pretended instances of partiality and preference shewn to Hanoverians in disgrace to the British troops; and these complaints were countenanced by some men of dis-

tinguished rank in the nation. Lord Stair himself, who had lately resigned the command of the army, out of discontents of that kind, confessed to his friends, that his hands were tied up by the caution of the Hanoverian generals, who never failed to outvote him in the councils of war. These charges recurred at every debate, and were urged with so much confidence, that an *Hanoverian* became a word of insult all over the nation. An address was moved in the house of peers, that his majesty would be graciously pleased to give orders that the 16,000 Hanoverians, then in the pay of Great Britain, be no longer continued in the service of the nation, thereby to put a stop to the jealousies and heart-burnings among his majesty's faithful subjects at home and his British forces abroad. Lord Carteret vindicated upon all occasions the conduct of his majesty, and when the charges were candidly considered, they appeared either immaterial or destitute of foundation. This motion bore, however, a long and violent debate, and the allegations upon which it was founded, were advanced with the same assurance as if all of them had been judicially proved. Upon a division the motion was rejected by the majority, but the rejection was attended with a very sharp protest signed by about 25 peers.

The same motion was made in the house of commons, and experienced the same fate; but it was renewed under various forms on several occasions with an indefatigable perseverance.

The amount of the national debt, December 31st, was 51,040,347*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*

Ann. 1744.

The national expenses amounted this year, perhaps higher than at any other period.

The commons voted 40,000 seamen, 21,358 British troops to serve in Flanders ; 19,028 other national troops to complete the land forces, besides 11,550 marines ; the whole of the national troops amounting to 51,939 men. The money provided by the committee of supply, amounted to 6,283,537*l.* including one million from the East-India Company, for renewing their charter for fourteen years ; one million from the sinking fund ; 1,200,000*l.* annuities at three per cent., and 600,000*l.* by a lottery ; to which, adding the amount of the perpetual taxes, the money raised this year fell little short of ten millions sterling.

The dissensions of the parliament were suddenly suspended by an event that seemed to unite both parties in the prosecution of the same measures. On the 15th of February, the king sent a message to both houses of parliament to acquaint them of his having received undoubted intelligence that the eldest son of the pretender was arrived in France, where preparations for an invasion were carried on in concert with disaffected persons in England, and that this invasion was to be supported by the squadron of the French men of war, which had been cruising several days in the British channel.

Both houses joined in an address as affectionate and as full of abhorrence at this insolent attempt as the strongest expressions of the English language could make it. It concluded in these words : " We beg leave to declare to your majesty, and to the whole world, that it is the fixed resolution and purpose of our hearts, at the hazard of our lives and fortunes, to support and defend your majesty and your undoubted right and title to the crown of these realms, and the protestant succession in your royal house, in opposition to, and defiance of the pretender and his adherents, and all other your majesty's enemies." The great preparations

made in France on this occasion, being ascertained by an affidavit of a captain of a packet-boat which had been for some time detained at Calais; the commons, on this information, voted another address, February 24th, beseeching his majesty "That he
" would in that dangerous and critical conjuncture
" of affairs, augment his forces by sea and land in
" such a manner as he should think proper and
" necessary, assuring his majesty that the house
" would make good all such expenses as he should
" be at, for the defence of his sacred person, and
" for the security of his kingdom."

As soon as the arrival of the young pretender in France, the British *chargé d'affaires* at Paris was ordered to demand that he should be obliged to quit the French king's territories in pursuance of the treaties. He was answered by the French minister, that when the king of England should have caused satisfaction to be given upon the repeated complaints that had been made to him of the infractions of those very treaties committed by his orders, his most christian majesty would then explain himself upon the demand made in the name of his Britannic majesty. Soon after, March 20th, the French king's declaration of war against Great Britain was published; and on the 31st war against France was proclaimed at London with the usual formalities.

The king received on this occasion the most warm and loyal addresses from all cities, corporations and boroughs. A general press all over the kingdom went on with great success. Some regiments were landed from Ireland, six were ordered to be raised to maintain the tranquillity at home; positive intelligence was received, that the French squadron, anchored at Dungeness, and on which the pretender was embarked with 4000 troops, a part of the forces destined for the invasion, had returned in

great precipitation and confusion to Brest, on the mere apparition of the English fleet under the command of admiral Norris. All apprehensions of an invasion being thus removed, the 6000 auxiliaries sent by the states general, on the king's requisition, embarked for Ostend.

Notwithstanding the appearances of public unanimity, it was plain that the exiled family had still a great number of partizans in England, and that plots and machinations were on foot, though the authors of them had the address to avoid being discovered. Upon nearer inspection, the laws against treasonable correspondence, were found very insufficient, and that no law in being was applicable to a correspondence with the sons of the pretender. A bill to that purpose was accordingly moved, and passed the house of commons. In the house of lords, it received great amendments, viz. a clause for attainting of high treason any of the pretender's sons, in case they should land, or attempt to land in Great Britain, or be found on board any ship or vessel, with intent to land there; and another clause for continuing the penalty of treason, upon the posterity of those who should be convicted of it, during the life of the two sons of the pretender. These amendments were fully discussed, and finally adopted by the house of commons. His majesty, after giving his assent to this bill, closed the session May 12th.

By this time an action had happened in the Mediterranean, between the British fleet, commanded by admiral Mathews, and the combined squadrons of France and Spain, which had been for some time blocked up in the harbour of Toulon. Mathews began the action, February 11, by attacking the Spanish admiral, whose ship was a first rate, of above 100 guns; rear-admiral Rowley singled out the French admiral, but a very few captains followed

the example of their commanders, and vice-admiral Lestock, with his whole division, remained at a great distance a-stern. Long before the engagement Mathews and Lestock had expressed the most virulent resentment against each other, and, to gratify their passion, both betrayed the interest and glory of their country; Lestock, on the 11th of February, and Mathews on the 14th, when Lestock having considerably gained ground of the combined squadron, the admiral displayed the signal of leaving off chase, and bore away for Port Mahon. On his arrival at Minorca he accused Lestock of having misbehaved on the day of action, suspended him from his office, and sent him prisoner to England, where Lestock in his turn accused Mathews of having restrained him from pursuing and attacking the enemy when they appeared disabled, and would have fallen an easy prey had they been vigorously attacked. A court-martial was appointed to try the delinquents; several captains were cashiered, vice-admiral Lestock was honourably acquitted, and admiral Mathews declared incapable of serving for the future in his majesty's navy.

In the month of June admiral Anson returned from his voyage of three years and nine months around the terraqueous globe. He had sailed with a small squadron to the South-Sea, in order to annoy the Spanish settlements of Chili and Peru. Two of his large ships being separated from him by a violent storm, were thrown on the coast of Brazil, from whence they returned to Europe. One of his frigates was shipwrecked on a desolate island in the South-Sea. Another dreadful tempest having dispersed his fleet, he arrived at the island of Juan Fernandez, where he was joined by the Gloucester, a ship of the line, a sloop, and a pink loaded with provisions. With these remains of his squadron he made several prizes, took and burned, with 58 of

his own seamen, the little town of Payta, which contained 200 families, and was protected by a fort, which mounted eight pieces of cannon ; he then set sail from the coast of Mexico for the Philippine Islands ; and in this passage the Gloucester was abandoned and sunk ; the other vessels had been destroyed for want of men to navigate them ; which reduced the commodore to his own ship, the Centurion, and that but very indifferently manned, the crews having been horribly thinned by sickness. They reached at last the plentiful island of Tinian, where they were supplied with refreshments. Thence they prosecuted their voyage to the river of Canton, in China, where the Commodore had his ship sheathed, and his crew completed. In hopes of intercepting the rich annual ship that sails between Acapulco, in Mexico, and Manilla, one of the Philippine Islands, he set sail from Canton and steered his course back to the straits of Manilla, where the Spanish ship actually fell into his hands, after a short but vigorous engagement : it was mounted with 40 guns, manned with 600 sailors, and loaded with treasure and effects, to the value of 313,000*l.* ; he then returned to England, where he arrived in safety, and was raised soon after to the dignity of a peerage.

In July, admiral sir John Balchen, an officer of approved valour and great experience, sailed with a strong squadron in quest of the Brest fleet ; but he was overtaken by a violent storm, that dispersed the ships, and drove them up the English channel ; his own ship, the Victory, one of the most beautiful first rates, foundered at sea, and this gallant admiral, with all his officers, volunteers, and crew, amounting to 1100 choice men, perished.

The inglorious management of the war on the part of the allies during this campaign, had created great discontent in England, which was far from being alleviated by any partial success at sea, as the latter were only advantageous to individuals, while

the expense of the war was severely felt by the public. On another hand the dissensions in the British cabinet, had ripened a new revolution in the ministry. Lord Carteret, now earl of Granville by the death of his mother, had so much engrossed the royal favour, that the duke of Newcastle and his brother had taken umbrage at his influence. In the mean time he had entirely forfeited his popularity, and incurred the resentment of those who were distinguished by the appellation of *Patriots*. The two brothers, conscious of their own strength, owing to their powerful parliamentary interest, engaged themselves in a political alliance with the leading men of the opposition against the prime minister and his measures. This coalition was dignified with the epithet of the *Broad Bottom*, which, however, was afterwards converted into a term of derision. The earl of Granville wisely avoided the impending storm and disgrace by a timely resignation of his employments. The earl of Harrington succeeded him as secretary of state; the duke of Bedford was appointed first lord of the admiralty; the earl of Chesterfield, lord lieutenant of Ireland; the lords Gower and Cobham were restored to the offices they had resigned; and several members in the opposition were admitted to serve his majesty, as it was advised by the chancellor of the exchequer, upon whom the great weight of national business was to lie, should the scheme take place. This change of men, rather than of measures, turned to the king's advantage, as his views were no longer thwarted by an obstinate opposition in parliament, whose session was opened November 27. The usual addresses of thanks were voted in both houses, with an unanimity which the unfavourableness of circumstances rendered the more remarkable.

The national debt since Christmas, 1743, was increased by 2,638,900*l*.

Ann. 1745.

The commons unanimously granted for the service of the year, 6,462,890*l.* to be raised by the land, the malt, and the salt taxes, the sinking fund, and an additional duty on wines. In January, the earl of Chesterfield set out for the Hague, with the character of ambassador extraordinary, to invite the states-general to engage heartily in the war. A treaty of quadruple alliance is concluded at Warsaw, between the queen of Hungary, the king of Poland, his Britannic majesty, and the states-general, enacting a mutual guarantee of the dominions belonging to the contracting parties, and a subsidy of 150,000*l.* in favour of his Polish majesty, two thirds of which to be defrayed by England, and the remainder by the states-general, on condition, that as soon as Bohemia and Saxony shall be out of danger, his Polish majesty shall march 10,000 men to the Netherlands, or any other place within the empire, which the king of Great Britain and the states-general shall think proper.

The parliamentary business being settled, the king having given his assent to many important bills, particularly for encouraging the British and Irish manufactures, and for prohibiting the wearing and importation of cambricks and French lawns, his majesty closed the session, May 2, and set out for Hanover.

The present campaign, though no less unpropitious than the last to the allies, was much more glorious, particularly to the British troops, and to the duke of Cumberland, their general. Lewis XV. encouraged by the success he had obtained in Flanders during the last summer, had resolved to continue this year the course of his conquests in that country, and mareschal de Saxe was already

in the Low Countries with an army of 70,000 men to oppose the Anglo-Austrian army, consisting of upwards of 28,000 British effective troops, and 25,000 Austrian and Dutch. After many feints, marches, and counter-marches, to amuse the enemy, *mareschal de Saxe*, on the 24th of April, invested *Tournay*, on the river *Scheldt*, esteemed to be the strongest place of the Dutch barrier. On the 30th the trenches were opened, and it was to relieve this important town that the allies had advanced to *Soignies*. The *mareschal*, who had foreseen their intention, had, by intrenchments and batteries, made the most formidable dispositions, in which he was assisted by the nature of the ground. The two armies were separated by a small rivulet near *Fontenoi*, and the intermediate space between them was a gently rising ground, which the allies had to ascend, and which the French had intersected with intrenchments lined with troops.

Lewis XV. who set out from *Paris* with the dauphin, May 7, reached next day the camp before *Tournay*; and on the 11th (N. S.) was fought that celebrated battle of *Fontenoy*, in which the duke of *Cumberland*, at the head of that famous impenetrable column, which resisted all the fire of the French troops and batteries, advanced to the attack with such an intrepidity, as to keep the victory in suspense during two hours; nay, *mareschal de Saxe*, seeing how cool and determined the English still appeared, and that none of his attempts could compel that formidable phalanx to desist from advancing, sent one of his aid-de-camps to beg the French king and the dauphin to repass the bridge he had secured for the retreat. *Lewis*, notwithstanding his high opinion of *mareschal de Saxe's* superior military talents, declared he was determined not to repass the bridge, and though many balls flew about him and the dauphin, he continued to

animate his troops, and to give orders with great spirit and presence of mind. He soon perceived, that the more the English advanced, the more their column grew deep and impenetrable by the straitening of the ground; consequently, that the battle was irretrievably lost, unless some means were found to break immediately that dreadful column; with this view he ordered five pieces of cannon to be instantly placed in its front, and this fortunate inspiration, which had escaped the mareschal's sagacity, decided in a few minutes the fate of the day; as, while the English column was most desperately galled by this new battery, the household troops, the Irish brigades, and the regiment of Normandy, broke in upon it, and rendered a retreat unavoidable. The loss of men was considerable, and nearly equal on both sides. That of the English, including those who died of their wounds, amounted to about 7000, that of the Hanoverians to 1762, and the Dutch had 1544 killed or wounded. The confederates lost no colours, standards, or kettle-drums, but a great many cannon, through the pusillanimity of the drivers, who ran off with their horses; and it must be acknowledged that the English and Hanoverian troops fought with such intrepidity and perseverance, that if they had been properly sustained by the Dutch forces, and their flanks covered by the cavalry, the French would probably have been obliged to raise the siege of Tournay. That fortress, now deprived of all hope of succour, maintained the most obstinate defence till the 21st of June, when the governor obtained an honourable capitulation.

The conquest of almost all the Austrian Netherlands by Lewis XV. was the consequence of his victory at Fontenoy. The duke of Cumberland wrote to mareschal de Saxe about a change of prisoners, and received an answer, that his most christian ma-

jesty intended to retain all prisoners till he received satisfaction for the breach of the cartel that had been committed, in the persons of mareschal Belisle and his brother, who, passing through a part of the Hanoverian dominions in their way to Silesia, had been arrested by the bailiff of a small village, and sent prisoners to England. They were actually set at liberty upon their undertaking to obtain the benefit of the cartel for the English prisoners.

The republic of Genoa having declared war against the king of Sardinia, admiral Rowley, upon receipt of his Britannic majesty's order, detached a squadron from the Mediterranean fleet to bombard that city and its maritime possessions, which was immediately executed, but without any considerable damage, except on the small town of St. Remo, which was almost reduced to ashes. A naval expedition of much more importance, executed by commodore Warren, was the reduction of Louisburg, the capital of the island of Cape Breton, the bulwark of the French empire in America, and which, by its situation, commands the navigation to Canada by the river St. Lawrence. The town capitulated, June 15, after a siege of 49 days, and the whole island submitted to his majesty.

On the 14th of July the pretender's son, prince Charles, at that time twenty-five years old, and attended only by seven of his adherents, embarked at port St. Nazaire, in Brittany, in a frigate of 18 guns, procured by the interest of one Walsh, a merchant of great eminence at Nantz; 900 stand of arms were shipped on board this vessel. He was joined off Belisle by the *Elizabeth*, a French ship of war of 60 guns, as his convoy; but falling in with the *Lion*, an English ship of the line, was so disabled that she could not prosecute the voyage, and with difficulty reached the harbour of Brest; but the *Lion* was shattered to such a degree that she floated like a

wreck upon the water. The frigate continued her course to the Western islands, touched at South-Vist, from thence sailed to Ardna-murchan, where the prince and his followers were entertained for some days, while couriers were despatched to all quarters to summon his friends to repair to him. The chief in that neighbourhood was Cameron, of Lochiel, whose father and grandfather had been active in all the rebellions since the revolution. He devoted himself, his family, friends, and followers, to the prince's interest ; but at the same time predicted the calamities that followed. The engaging Lochiel to take the field, soon altered the desponding face of the pretender's cause. He then erected his standard, and many other clans flocked to it. The encounter of the Elizabeth gave some colour to the prince's excuse for coming so unattended, and to the assurance he gave his followers that he should soon be supported effectually from France.

Prince Charles having assembled a number of followers, amounting to about 1600, marched towards the low countries of Scotland, proclaimed his father at Dunkeld, September 3, and next day entered Perth, one of the chief towns of Scotland. In his progress, his army was greatly increased. The marquis of Tullibardine, who had attended him from France, had procured him several reinforcements among the tenants of the Athol estate. His brother, lord George Murray, with many gentlemen of the country, now joined him. While Charles remained at Perth he exercised his men and found they amounted to about 3000. A part of them seized the town of Dundee, a place of great importance.

Upon leaving Perth, Charles advanced towards Dumblane, passed the Firth and marched to Edinburgh. Two regiments of dragoons lay in the neighbourhood between the city and the rebels. A great number of volunteers enlisted themselves in

defence of the government, and a regiment of 1000 foot was ordered to be raised by subscription ; the trained bands and the city militia were in excellent order ; and the walls of the city were mounted with artillery, more than sufficient to render the place defensible against an enemy but half-armed, and without cannon of any kind. All this show of zeal, however, was not to be depended on. The dragoons retired as the rebels approached ; the city regiment and guard, who had marched about a mile towards them, returned tumultuously into the town, which was already so filled with terror and confusion, that the inhabitants immediately surrendered to the rebels.

Charles publishes three manifestos, the first was in the name of the pretender, declaring his right to the crown of Scotland, and promising the Scots to redress all their grievances ; by the second, he appointed his son Charles regent of Scotland, England and Ireland, during his absence ; the third was in the name of Charles, stiling himself a regent, and as such, commanding obedience.

Charles takes his residence at Holy-Rood house, the palace of the kings of Scotland, and sends an order to the magistrates of Edinburgh, demanding on pain of military execution, 1000 tents, 2000 targets, 6000 pair of shoes, and a proportionate quantity of tin water-canteens, for the use of his army. During these transactions, sir John Cope, who commanded the troops in Scotland, assembled what force he could bring together and advanced with about 3000 men towards Edinburgh, in order to give battle to the enemy ; and encamped, September 20th, in the neighbourhood of Preston-Pans. Early next morning, he was attacked by prince Charles, at the head of about 2400 highlanders, half armed, who charged him sword in hand with such impetuosity, that in less than ten minutes, the king's

troops were broken and totally routed. The colours, artillery, tents, baggage and military chest, fell into the hands of the victor, who returned in triumph to Edinburgh. This victory supplied him with arms, a train of artillery, a considerable sum of money, encouraged his party, and increased their number.

The rebels having gained the battle of Preston-Pans, thought nothing was too difficult for them to attempt, and determined to besiege Edinburgh castle. General Guest, the governor, acquainted the magistrates that he should be obliged to make use of his cannon to dislodge the highland guards, and keep clear, according to his orders, the communication between the castle and the town; that he would, however, respite the firing for six days, till he should receive an order from court how to proceed. The rebels availed themselves of this delay, to raise a battery against the castle, which, however, did very little damage, as their guns were soon dismounted by the fire of the besieged, who likewise made several sallies, and took some prisoners. One or two of the towns people happening to be killed by shots from the castle, the young pretender issued a proclamation, in which, considering that justice ought to give place to mercy, when the good of the people required it, he commanded the blockade to be taken off, and all hostilities to cease on his part. He then issued a declaration, promising, in his father's name, all kind of protection and security to the protestant religion and the established church; that respecting the national debt, and all the laws issued since the revolution, he would take the advice of his parliament; with respect to the union of the two nations, he declared that he could not possibly ratify it, as he had received repeated remonstrances against it from each kingdom.

On the 22nd of October, the rebels had a general

review of their troops between Leith and Edinburgh, and having received from France, money, arms, and ammunition, they prepared in good earnest for their march into England. In the meantime, the king returned from Hanover; received in London the most loyal addresses from his faithful subjects, not only in the metropolis, but from all the corporations in England. Subscriptions and associations were forming every where for the defence of his person and government. The arrival of the duke of Cumberland from Holland, helped to enliven these dispositions, which now appeared stronger than ever.

On the 16th of October, his majesty opened the parliament, to be advised and assisted by them in suppressing the rebellion. The addresses of both houses were as usual, full of duty and loyalty, and expressed the utmost indignation against the attempts of the rebels. The troops from Flanders and Holland being now arrived, it was resolved that a camp consisting of 14,000 men should be formed at Newcastle under marshal Wade. On the 30th of October, he published an offer of pardon to the rebels; but this offer served only to increase their confidence, which from their march from Edinburgh, rose to an amazing height. They spoke of the royal forces as being the gleanings of an unfortunate campaign in Flanders, and of the battle of Preston Pans. They proceeded, however, with great secrecy, and by their first disposition, deceived the king's troops, who, supposing that they intended to enter England by Berwick, marched to defend that town; while prince Charles made a sudden turn westward, in three divisions, the whole having orders to rendezvous near Carlisle.

The rebels lay siege before Carlisle, which they attack in three places at once, compelling the inhabitants of the neighbouring country to assist them

with horses, carriages, and their own labour. After seven days of very weak resistance, the inhabitants, struck with consternation and exhausted with fatigue, surrendered the town and the castle with all the provisions, arms, and ammunition. At the same time, alarming preparations were in great forwardness in France for supporting the rebellion. To disappoint them, admiral Vernon was ordered to take the command of a squadron in the channel, and admiral Byng was stationed on the eastern coast of Scotland. By their vigilance a great number of the French transports with ammunition, men, and money, bound for Scotland, were interrupted, and the main design of the French was disconcerted, though some Irish in French pay landed in Scotland.

The king having received undoubted intelligence that new preparations were making at Dunkirk and other ports in France for invading Great Britain, directed the 6000 Hessians in British pay to be brought into England, and informed the parliament of these circumstances, doubting not but his faithful commons would concur in all such measures as should be necessary for defeating so dangerous an attempt. The commons upon this message voted 40,000 seamen, 49,299 land forces, 11,550 marines, and pay for the 13 new regiments of foot and 2 regiments of horse raised by the noblemen : they voted likewise the amount of all the subsidies granted to the different powers of Europe, and 500,000*l.* in a vote of credit to his majesty ; in short, the whole of the supplies this year amounted to the sum of 7,063,251*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.* The ways and means by which this sum was raised, shew the great confidence the people had in his majesty's government, at a juncture, when its enemies employed all their arts to shake the public credit.

Four shillings in the pound, land tax . .	£2,000,000
The duties on malt, mum, cyder, and perry, continued	750,000
To be raised by annuities 2,500,000 <i>l</i> . and by lottery 500,000 <i>l</i> . and to be charged on the additional duties on glass and spirituous liquors	3,000,000
From the sinking fund and its growing produce	1,000,000
To be raised by loans or exchequer bills, chargeable upon the first aids next ses- sion of parliament	500,000
	£7,250,000

The rebels left a garrison at Carlisle, and marched with their whole army to Manchester, of which they took possession on the 28th of November. There they beat up for volunteers, to whom they promised five guineas each man, but they were scarcely able to raise even a single company, though prince Charles had been made to believe, that when he should be at Manchester, half of England should flock to his standard. Charles, visibly affected with this disappointment, held a consultation with his officers in what manner they should proceed. After several motions, he arrived at Derby with his army, almost in want of every thing. They, therefore, made free with the effects and cloaths of some of the inhabitants, as well as with the public money. By this time, his majesty had ordered another army to be formed, under the command of the duke of Cumberland, with sir John Ligonier under him; and other vigorous measures were preparing, of which the rebels being informed by their friends in London, resolved to return back to Scotland, where

they heard that their affairs had taken a very favourable turn. The duke of Cumberland being joined by his whole army, came in sight of Carlisle. The rebels, who were left to defend the place, made a show of resistance, by firing their cannon upon every body who appeared in sight of it; but the duke having received his artillery, began to batter the town on the 28th of December, and the garrison surrendered immediately. The only terms they could obtain, were, that they should not be put to the sword, but reserved for the king's pleasure.

Prince Charles proceeded by the way of Dumfries to Glasgow, from which he exacted severe contributions on account of its attachment to the government. Having continued there several days, he advanced towards Stirling, and being joined by some forces which had been assembled in his absence by lords Lewis Gordon and John Drummond, he invested the castle of Stirling, but his followers were so little used to enterprises of this kind, that they made very little progress in their operations.

Ann. 1746.

All the people of rank at Edinburgh were now returned in the interest of government, and general Wade had sent some regiments of dragoons and foot to protect that town; but the progress of the rebellion in the north was far from being checked, notwithstanding the indefatigable exertions of lord Loudon, who commanded for the government of Inverness. The most active and dangerous rebels in those parts, were lord Lewis Gordon, brother to the duke of that name, and the famous lord Lovat, a man of consummate dissimulation and cunning, a double traitor, whose character was a compound of abilities and absurdities.

D D 2

While Lewis Gordon defeated in the north the well-affected clans under Macleod, the rebels took possession of Stirling, January 8th. The government being alarmed at this success, a new army was immediately ordered to be got ready, and general Hawley was appointed commander-in-chief. He hastened to Scotland, where he found himself at the head of an army of 10,000 men, assembled at Falkirk. With this force he thought himself so invincible, that he did not wait to procure any intelligence of the rebels: when he heard that they were in motion, to take possession of some rising grounds, about a mile from his camp, Hawley immediately formed his men into two lines in the front of their camp; and there was fought the battle of Falkirk, January 17th, in which the loyalists were defeated and lost about 400 men, among whom were a great number of officers, seven pieces of cannon, some colours, and 600 muskets. When this intelligence was received in London, it renewed the public consternation, but the most sanguine hopes revived as soon as it was known that the duke of Cumberland was appointed to suppress the rebellion; which he undertook with great cheerfulness. He arrived on the 30th of January at Edinburgh, where he was welcomed as the guardian angel of his father's cause. The army, with some additional troops, was immediately re-assembled. He applied himself to revive the confidence of the people, and the spirits of the soldiers; and by his behaviour to all ranks who crowded about him, he obtained a popularity which was of infinite service to the king's interest. He then marched from Edinburgh, with his army in two columns, with an intention of surprising the enemy, and advanced to Aberdeen, after having secured the important posts of Stirling and Perth. While he remained in this place refreshing his troops and preparing magazines, several parties

of the rebels surprised some of his detachments. These little checks were counterbalanced by some advantages which his majesty's troops obtained. The young pretender, impatient for more decisive success, was so presumptuous, as to propose to march and fight the duke; but the heads of the party so strongly represented the folly of such an attempt, that it was resolved to retreat northwards, with all the baggage and cannon they could carry off, and to blow up their magazines. Before they left Stirling, they had spiked up all the cannon they could. At Perth, which they entered on the 2nd of February, they nailed up thirteen pieces of brass cannon. The pretender then set out for Inverness, the place of rendezvous for his whole party. In his march thither, he took the small fort of Ruthven, and then proceeded to lay siege to Fort George, the citadel of Inverness, which surrendered to him, February 21st. In the north, the rebels harassed and plundered the estates of all the noblemen and gentlemen who were known to be well affected to his majesty. At last the 6000 Hessians, who had been ordered to Scotland, being arrived under the command of prince Frederic of Hesse, the duke of Cumberland resolved to postpone no longer the decisive blow he meditated against the rebels, and having settled his plan with prince Frederic, he put the whole of his troops into motion on the 20th of February, in four divisions, with orders for the whole to be at Aberdeen on the 1st of March. On the 8th of April, the duke marched from Aberdeen to the Spey, where about 3000 of the rebels were posted, but they retired towards Elgin on the approach of the king's army, who, therefore, passed the Spey without any opposition. Then was fought on the 16th of April that famous battle of Culloden, the particulars of which have been variously reported, both by the historians

and the newspapers of the times ; though all agree on its issue and consequences, namely, on the complete rout of the pretender's army, and the final annihilation of all the hopes of that party. In less than thirty minutes, they were totally defeated, and 1200 of them were slain or wounded, either on the field or in the pursuit.

The levity of prince Charles's behaviour, during and after the battle, evinced how incapable he was to be the leader of such an enterprise. He dismissed all his train, except a few followers, from whom he parted some days after ; and though about 2000 of his faithful highlanders assembled at Fort Augustus, as a body of the lowlanders did at Ruthven, and sent to him to know what they were to do, his answer was, that they should disperse, and every man shift for himself. Having, however, received at this juncture 40,000 louis d'ors from France, he held a consultation with some of his followers, to determine what was to be done ; and they advised him to raise a competent number of men to protect their country, families and cattle. This proposal was agreed to. But the activity of the duke of Cumberland, and the despondency of the young pretender, defeated all those schemes. He rode off, accompanied by the duke of Perth, lord Elcho, and a few horsemen ; and having rested a few days in the house of a gentleman, he dismissed his followers, and wandered about a wretched fugitive among the isles and mountains during five months, undergoing an unprecedented series of dangers, hardships, and misery, until a French privateer was procured, on which he embarked, September 20th, in the habit which he wore for disguise.

Both houses voted addresses of congratulation to his majesty, and of thanks to the duke of Cumberland ; and an act was passed for an addition of

25,000*l.* to his revenue, settled upon his royal highness and the heirs male of his body.

Trials of the earls of Cromartic, Kilmarnoc, lord Balmerino, lord Lovat, who were all sentenced to death, as well as the prisoners that had been taken at Carlisle, or at the battle of Culloden, and the greatest part of them were executed.

The earl of Granville discovered at that time his impatience of retrieving his influence in the cabinet, and the king favoured his efforts. But the duke of Newcastle, and of Mr. Pelham, his brother, who took umbrage at the superiority of his talents, refused to admit him as a colleague, and tried to strengthen their party by introducing fresh auxiliaries into the administration. Some of them being disagreeable to the king, his majesty rejected the suit by which they were recommended. The duke and his brother immediately resigned their office, and Granville was appointed secretary of state; but finding himself unequal to the accumulated opposition that preponderated against him, and that he should not be able to secure the supplies in parliament; he, in three days, voluntarily quitted the helm, and his majesty acquiesced in the measures proposed by the opposite party. The seals were redelivered to the duke of Newcastle and the earl of Harrington; and all those who had resigned were reinstated in their respective employments, and offices were conferred on several other individuals, one of whom was William Pitt, who was appointed vice-treasurer of Ireland, and soon promoted to the place of paymaster-general of the forces; at the same time the king declared him a privy counsellor. He had been originally designed for the army, in which he actually bore a commission; but his eminent talents soon opened to him a more important career.

The English make a descent upon Brittany, and

march against l'Orient ; but as precaution had been taken to prevent its being attacked on the sea-side, they are obliged to re-embark.

The parliament was prorogued, August 12th.

The naval transactions in the course of this year, reflected very little honour on the British nation. Commodore Peyton, commanding a squadron of six ships of war in the East Indies, unaccountably declined a decisive engagement with a French squadron of inferior force, and abandoned the important settlement of Madras. The commerce was but indifferently protected in the West Indies ; and commodore Lee allowed a French fleet with their convoy to pass unmolested. The conquest of Quebec, the capital of Canada, was now the important expedition which engrossed the attention of the ministry. Commissions were sent to the governors of the British colonies in America, for raising companies to join the armament from England ; and 8000 troops were actually raised for that destination, while a powerful squadron and transports having six regiments on board, were prepared at Portsmouth for this enterprise.

The parliament was assembled, November 18th ; and as many leaders of the opposition were now concerned in the administration, the demands of government met with little or no objection. The estimates being considered, the commons voted 40,000 seamen for the service of the year ; and 60,000 land forces, including 11,500 marines. All the subsidies to foreign princes were granted, as well as the sum of 500,000*l.* to enable his majesty to prosecute the war with advantage. In a word, the supplies amounted to the immense sum of 9,425,254*l.* raised by the usual taxes, increased with new impositions on windows, carriages and spirituous liquors, a lottery, and a loan from the sinking fund. The supplies of this year exceeded by two millions and

a half, the greatest annual sum that was raised during the reign of queen Anne, though she maintained as great a number of troops.

The king manifested his desire of reducing the public expence, by disbanding the third and fourth troops of his life guards, and converting into dragoons, three regiments of horse. The commons presented an address of thanks to his majesty for this economy, which saved to the nation the annual sum of 70,000*l*.

The further suspension of the habeas corpus act, for three months, according to the demand of government, was passed by the house of peers, and sent down to the commons, where it passed after some opposition.

The national debt at the end of this year amounted to 59,356,597*l*. 16*s*. 9*d*.

Ann. 1747.

The French king prepared to make this year greater efforts than ever, and to open the campaign in the Netherlands at the head of 150,000 men, while 60,000 were destined to act in Provence. To secure firmness and unity of action to this immense force, he renewed in the person of mareschal de Saxe the title of Mareschal de Camp general, which had been conferred on the Great Turenne, and which gave him a right to command, not only the mareschals of France, but the princes of the blood. His plan was no less than to carry the arms of France into the vitals of the United Provinces, by instantly attacking Dutch Brabant. The duke of Cumberland had made the best dispositions for opening the campaign earlier than it had been usual of late years. Even in February, his troops were put in motion, and by the end of March, they took the field in Dutch Brabant, but through the inex-

cusable negligence of the Dutch and Austrians, the allied armies were ill provided, even of necessary subsistence, and obliged to remain inactive.

The taking of Sluys, Sas-Van-Ghent, and Hulst, were the first operations of the French army, in the month of April. The duke of Cumberland exerted himself with extraordinary vigour in marching to relieve Hulst, but the place was infamously given up the very day the English troops came before it. The Dutch, alarmed at the rapidity of the conquests, considered their country as being in a worse situation than when invaded by Lewis XIV. in 1672, and saw no other resource than that which had saved them at that period, namely, the establishment of the ancient form of their government, by appointing a stadtholder, and the public voice hailed the present prince of Orange to that dignity. He was unanimously elected by the states of Zealand; the other provinces soon followed the example; and at last he was appointed, in the general assembly of the states, Stadtholder, captain general and admiral in chief of all the United Provinces. He repaired to the Hague, May 15, and his speech to the states-general raised in the whole assembly a great idea of his wisdom and abilities which his subsequent conduct confirmed.

The naval operations were this year much more favourable to the English than they had been of late. The government being informed that the French had fitted out two fleets, one destined for America, and another to the East Indies, despatched vice-admiral Anson and rear-admiral Warren with a squadron of fifteen ships of war to meet them. On the 3d of May, being off Cape Finisterre, they fell in with the French fleet, consisting of nine ships of an inferior force, acting as convoy to twenty-nine merchant ships, and in less than three hours they took

six ships of the line and five East-India company's ships, fitted out as men of war. The rest made their escape during the engagement. Besides the ships that were taken, the treasure found on board them was very considerable. In the next month, another English squadron, cruising for the enemy's homeward-bound fleet between Ushant and Cape Finisterre, the French fleet appeared, under the convoy of four ships, commanded by commodore de Lamotte, who made the best of his way from the British squadron, which, however, took forty-six of their merchant ships. The admiralty having got intelligence at this time that the French American fleet, consisting of 250 merchant ships, and escorted by a strong squadron from Brest, were assembling at the island of Aix; rear-admiral Hawke was despatched against this fleet, with a squadron consisting of thirteen ships, and fell in with the convoy on the 14th of October. The admiral, not to lose time in forming his line, made signal for the whole squadron to chase, and after a long and obstinate fight, two French ships of 74 guns, one of 70, two of 64, and one of 50, were taken; and the admiral despatched a sloop to commodore Legg in the West Indies, to put him upon his guard, that he might intercept the French merchantmen.

The parliament had been dissolved by proclamation, June 18, and on the same day writs were issued for calling a new parliament, who, after several prorogations, met November 10. In the interval was fought, July 2, the battle of Laffeldt, more bloody, though less obstinate, than that of Fontenoy. There was a moment when victory seemed ready to declare for the confederates, when the fortune of the day took a sudden turn against them. Several squadrons of Dutch horse, posted in the centre, gave way, and flying at full gallop, overthrew five battalions of infantry that were ad-

vancing from the body of reserve. The French cavalry charging them with great impetuosity, increased the confusion and penetrated through the lines of the allied army, which was thus divided. The duke of Cumberland, who exerted himself with equal courage and activity to remedy this disorder, was in great danger of being taken ; and the defeat would probably have been complete, had not sir John Ligonier, at the head of three British regiments of dragoons and some squadrons of Imperial horse, charged the whole line of the French cavalry with such intrepidity that he overthrew all that opposed him, and, by that diversion, enabled the duke of Cumberland to effect an orderly retreat to Maestricht, without sustaining great damage from the pursuit, and even bringing off all the artillery, except sixteen pieces of cannon. Sir John Ligonier was made prisoner. The loss of the allies in killed, wounded, and missing, amounted, according to the English historians, to about 6000 men, and that of the enemy to about ten or eleven thousand men, while the accounts of the French historians is quite the reverse. From this contradiction it may be induced that both are more or less exaggerated, and that probably the loss was nearly equal on both sides.

The confederates passed the Maese, and took a position to cover Maestricht, while the French king remained with his army in the neighbourhood of Tongers. Mareschal de Saxe having amused the allies by marches and counter-marches, at length detached count Lowendal, with 36,000 men, to invest Bergen-op-Zoom, the strongest place of Dutch Brabant, the favourite work of the famous engineer, Coehorn. It was taken by storm, September 16, after 60 days from the opening of the trenches. In a little time after, the French having taken the fortresses of Lillo, Frederic-Henry, and Lacroix,

both armies were distributed into winter quarters, and the duke of Cumberland returned to England.

Admiral Boscawen is sent to the East Indies in the month of November, with a force sufficient to undertake the siege of Pondichery ; but the strength of the garrison, fortifications newly erected, and sickness beginning to make great havoc among his troops, oblige him to raise the siege.

Notwithstanding this miscarriage, Great Britain had such a superiority over the French by sea, and the union between England and Holland, was so strengthened by the elevation of the prince of Orange to the stadtholdership, that a resolution to conclude peace was taken in the French council. In the mean time, to counterbalance the great superiority which France had acquired upon the continent; his Britannic majesty entered into a negociation with Russia, for hiring a body of 30,000 troops. But the empress was unable to put them in motion without 100,000*l.* being paid down by England, and a subsidy of 300,000*l.* a-year for three years, if they were so long employed. Besides, the march of this army from Russia to the Low Countries, must be attended with great loss of time and other inconveniencies. Notwithstanding these difficulties, as the confederates had no surer means to obtain good terms of peace than to prepare vigorously for war, the treaty for the 30,000 auxiliaries was signed by his majesty, and the Dutch engaged afterwards to pay the fourth part of the expense.

The session of the new parliament was opened November 10. The king in his speech to both houses, mentioned the signal success with which it had pleased God to bless the British arms by sea ; as to those obtained by the enemy on the continent, his majesty observed, that none of the misfortunes of the allies could be imputed to Great Britain. He informed them that some overtures for a general

pacification had been lately made to him on the part of France; that, in conjunction with his allies, he had agreed that a congress should be held at Aix-la-Chapelle, whither the several ministers would soon repair, observing at the same time that there could be no other means to expect a good peace, but by being timely prepared to carry on a vigorous war.

Both houses in their addresses expressed their loyalty and disposition to comply with his majesty's desires. Though it was probable that the scheme of a general pacification was nearly settled in the cabinet, as the preparations for war continued greater than ever, the new house of commons readily granted 8,507,930*l.* for the service of the ensuing year, including the usual subsidies, and besides, that for 30,000 Russians.

The scheme for a general naturalization of foreign protestants, was again set on foot at this time, and a bill to that purpose was brought into the house of commons. It was urged in support of that measure, that it tended to replace the great waste of people which the war had made, and to introduce numbers of foreign industrious workmen and active labourers now very much wanted for agriculture and the manufactures. Notwithstanding the plausibility of these arguments, the sheriffs of London presented a petition against the bill, in the name of the city, setting forth, that it was more likely to increase the poverty than to add to the wealth of the nation; that a like law had been proposed and rejected in the reign of king William; that the attempt being renewed in the reign of queen Anne, and an act passed for that purpose, it was found so detrimental to the public interest as to be shortly after repealed, and not without some reflections on the mischief it had produced. This petition was warmly supported, and Mr. Pelham, the chancellor of the exchequer, apprehending that the bill might be unpopular, and

consequently hurtful to the government, which was then very high in the city of London, agreed it should be dropt for that time.

The national debt, at the end of this year, was raised to 64,593,797*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*

Ann. 1748.

An act is passed for encouraging the culture and manufacture of indigo in America, an article for which Great Britain used to pay 200,000*l.* yearly to the subjects of France. Another bill, much less advantageous, but very popular, prohibited insurances on ships belonging to France, and merchandize or effects laden therein. A proclamation was published, February 19, importing, " That all commerce, " trade, and traffic, to or from France, or any " other of the French king's dominions, and the " exportation or importation of any goods, merchandize, or commodities, to or from France, or " any other French possessions, by any of the " king's subjects, without his licence, are great " misdemeanours, and high violations and contempts " of his royal authority, and for which the offenders " are liable to severe punishment by the laws of this " realm."

Eight long years were now elapsed, from the beginning of that incessant and nearly general war, whose hardships and calamities desolated the greatest part of Europe. The contending states, victorious and vanquished by turns, but equally exhausted by their victories as by their defeats, equally longed for the restoration of peace, and saw with great anxiety immense preparations for a new campaign, going hand in hand with overtures for a general pacification; and the respective plenipotentiaries and generals hastening either to the field or to the place appointed for the congress. Such was the state of

Europe when the conferences at Aix la Chapelle were opened, March 11 ; yet a good deal of time and many altercations passed before the preliminaries could be agreed on.

About this time, the rank between the land and sea officers was fixed by the following order, issued by his majesty in council :—

Admirals and commanders in chief to rank with field marshals.

Admirals, with their flags on the main-top-mast head, with generals of horse and foot.

Vice-admirals with lieutenant-generals.

Rear-admirals with major-generals.

Commodores, with broad pendants, with brigadier-generals.

Captains, of three years standing, with colonels.

Younger captains with lieutenant-colonels.

Masters and commanders with majors.

Lieutenants with captains.

While the Dutch troops were assembling in the neighbourhood of Breda, the duke of Cumberland was collecting his army about Lyndoven ; but notwithstanding the promises of the Dutch and the empress queen, neither of them had above 30,000 men in the field at the opening of the campaign, which, with about 50,000 under the duke of Cumberland, did not in the whole amount to above 110,000 men. The 30,000 Russians were not expected before three or four months. Mareschal de Saxe arrived at Brussels, March 20, assembled the French army, and exhibited in this campaign the last specimen of his military talents, particularly in deceiving the enemy by the skilfulness of his marches. At the head of a division of 25,000, he made such dispositions and motions, as to make the enemy believe that he would attack Breda, though his object was to throw a strong convoy in Bergen-op-Zoom ; while a second division marched to Tirle-

- mont on the way of Liege; a third took the road of Tongres, and another threatened Luxembourg, when all of a sudden these three divisions advanced simultaneously towards Maestricht, on the right and left bank of the Maese, and invested the place on all sides. The trenches were opened April 15. The marechal's activity hastened the settlement of the preliminaries at Aix-la-Chapelle. They were signed on the 30th of April, between France, England, and Holland. As all hostilities between the belligerent powers were to cease at land in the space of six weeks, according to the 16th article of the preliminaries, it was agreed, upon further consultation, that the town of Maestricht should be surrendered on the 3d of May, and that the garrison should march out with the honours of war.

The king put an end to the session, May 13, and in his speech informed the two houses, that in consequence of the preliminaries being signed, a cessation of hostilities had taken place in the Low Countries and in the Channel, and that certain periods were fixed for the same cessation in other parts of the world. His majesty having previously declared his intention to leave the kingdom for some time, appointed a regency for the administration of the government during his absence, and embarked for Holland. Intelligence was received soon after of the accession of the queen of Hungary, the king of Sardinia, and the duke of Modena, to the preliminaries. When it was known that the Russian auxiliaries were on their march to the borders of Franconia, the French plenipotentiaries at Aix-la-Chapelle received orders from his most christian majesty to intimate to the Dutch plenipotentiaries, that if the Russians should pass Egra, he would give orders for the immediate demolition of the fortifications of Maestricht and Bergen-op-Zoom. Upon this declaration a convention was signed, enacting, that the

Russian troops should be finally stopped, and that the French, at the same time, should send out of the Low Countries, into the interior parts of France, an equal number of their troops, there to be disbanded in a month after the march of the Russians towards their own country.

The definitive treaty, being at last concluded, was signed by the plenipotentiaries of the belligerent powers, on the 18th of October. The substance of it is as follows:—

Art. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Every thing that has passed during the war, on all sides, to be buried in a general oblivion. The treaties of Westphalia, Madrid, Nimeguen, Ryswick, Utrecht, Baden, the Hague, the Quadruple Alliance, and the treaty of Vienna, were all confirmed. The prisoners made and the hostages given during the war, to be restored on all sides without ransom after the exchange of ratifications, as well as all the men of war and merchant ships taken since the time stipulated for the cessation of hostilities. All the conquests made during the war to be reciprocally restored.

Art. 6. The restitutions and cessions to be made in six weeks after the ratification. The artillery found in the conquered places to be restored in the same condition as they were at the time of the conquest, excepting that at Menin, Charleroi, Ath, Mons, and Oudenarde.

Art. 7. The duchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guastalla, to be ceded, with all their rights and dependencies, to the infant Don Philip, to return to their present possessors, in case that prince dies without male issue, or he, or any of his descendants, should mount the throne of Spain, or of the two Sicilies.

Art. 8, 9, 10, 11. Commissaries to be immediately appointed on all sides, to assemble at Nice and Brussels, to effectuate the respective restitutions.

and cessions. All the papers and records found in the towns to be restored, particularly the archives of Mechlin. Means to be taken in the general evacuation as commodious as possible for the troops and inhabitants. Two English noblemen of the first distinction to be sent to France as hostages, to remain there till certain advice is received of the evacuation of Cape Breton, and all the places which may have been taken in the East Indies.

Art. 12, 13, 14, 15. The king of Sardinia to be maintained in the possession of all his estates, principally those ceded to him in 1743, excepting that part of the Plaisantine he occupies, which he has ceded to the infant Don Philip. The duke of Modena to be re-established in all his estates, and justice done him in respect to the allodial effects which he possessed in the duchy of Guastalla. The republic of Genoa to be re-established in all the possessions it enjoyed before the war. The money they had in the banks of Vienna and Turin, and which was confiscated, to be restored, and the payment of the interest to commence from the day of the exchange of the ratifications. Things to remain in Italy on the same footing they were before the war, excepting the cessions made to the king of Sardinia and to the infant Don Philip.

Art. 16, 17. The Assiento Treaty is confirmed, and particularly the article of the annual ship for the four years during which the enjoyment of it was lost in the present war. The fortifications of Dunkirk to remain as they now are on the land side, but the ancient treaties to be observed with regard to the port and the works on the sea side.

Art. 18, 19, 20. The differences respecting the sums which the king of Great Britain declared to be due to him as elector of Hanover, to be amicably adjusted; and the affair concerning the abbey of St. Hubert to be regulated at the same time. The

article of the treaty of the Quadruple Alliance, which secures the succession of the crown of Great Britain to the house of Hanover, is confirmed in all its points. All the states which his Britannic majesty possesses in Germany guaranteed by the contracting powers.

Art. 21, 22, 23, 24. The said powers guarantee likewise, in the most solemn manner, the Pragmatic Sanction, Silesia, and the county of Glatz, to his Prussian majesty, as also the execution of all the articles of the present treaty. The exchange of ratifications to be made at Aix-la-Chapelle within a month by the ministers of the contracting powers, and in six weeks by those of the powers who will accede to the treaty.

This peace was far from answering the expectations raised by the important successes obtained at sea by the British squadrons from the beginning of the war. Nothing was stipulated respecting the free navigation of the English in the American seas, nor in any of the contested points which gave rise to the war, while a claim of money, due to his Britannic majesty as elector of Hanover, though it had never been heard of before, was definitively admitted. Melancholy apprehensions were also entertained, and were afterwards but too verified, about the restitution of Louisbourg. The granting hostages to France, though not unprecedented, was highly censured as a national disgrace; and all these disappointments were imputed to the hasty conclusion of the treaty, before the arrival of the Russian auxiliaries, who, by giving a superiority to the allied armies, would have secured to the English plenipotentiaries more influence in the Congress, where the ministers of France and Great Britain, the two principal parties in it, appeared to be less solicitous to obtain advantageous terms for their constituents, than to obstruct each other in their mutual pretensions. Thence it happened, that after an immense

expense of blood and treasure, these two powers derived no other profit from this war, than that of better knowing their respective strength. France plainly perceived, that her naval power and finances could not emulate those of Great Britain, and Great Britain experienced that her land forces could not overcome her rival's armies in the Low Countries or on the frontiers of France. Thus the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle reconciled the public opinion with the treaty of Utrecht, and with the wise reluctance of sir Robert Walpole to engaging his country in a new war, upon a quarrel which, by any means, would have been more advantageously conciliated by negotiation.

During the conferences at Aix-la-Chapelle, the young pretender's agents had offered a protest, which had been rejected without looking at it; and an intimation was made to himself, that after the conclusion of the peace it would be very improper for his most christian majesty to suffer him to reside in his dominions. He received this intimation with great indifference, and even disrespect. When it was repeated to him, he flatly told the duke of Gesvres, that it was not in his master's power, consistently with his engagements, to order him out of his dominions. The French king wrote to him a soothing letter, to persuade him to retire from France, promising him a pension sufficient to live upon, not only with proper dignity, but with splendor; and, on his majesty's demand, the Canton of Fribourg had agreed to grant to the exiled prince a refuge in their dominions; but all was to no purpose. He absolutely refused to withdraw, and even after the arrival of the earl of Sussex and lord Cathcart, sent as British hostages to Paris, he appeared publicly on all occasions, and affected to be treated in their presence with the distinction he had assumed. The two English noblemen complained of this to

the French king, and his majesty applied to the old pretender at Rome, who wrote to his son a very severe letter, blaming the folly of his conduct, and advising him to leave the territory of France. Charles, however, continued obstinate, appearing with a kind of exulting air in all public places; and his followers gave out, that if any violence was offered to him, he was resolved to defend himself to the last extremity. The common people of Paris took his part, and an insurrection in his favour was apprehended. Upon this occasion he was suddenly seized in stepping out of his coach into the opera house, and conducted to the castle of Vincennes, from which he was sent in four or five days after out of the kingdom, with a guard, and on his promise of not returning to France.

The king returned to England on the 23d of November, and on the 29th the session was opened. The blessings of peace, the reduction of the public expense and national debt, were the principal topics of his speech; the addresses of thanks were voted without a division in both houses, though with some opposition in the house of commons.

A great misunderstanding had broken out at that time, between his majesty's court and that of the prince of Wales. Some obsolete claims in the county of Cornwall had been lately revived by his royal highness, and a stannery-court, or what was called a parliament, had been held there, and mention had been made of certain powers which the prince ought to enjoy, that would make the elections of members of parliament for Cornwall dependant on him. Viscount Bolingbroke, who possessed in some degree the prince's confidence, was then in England, endeavouring to engross his royal highness to himself, with a view of renewing the breach in the royal family. This had not been found out, nor even suspected, by the other servants

of his royal highness, before the opening of this session, and they united in an opposition to the court, voting against the address, and arraigning the conduct of the ministry for concluding the peace before the arrival of the Russians.

The committee of supply, considering the sums that were necessary for paying off debts, for making good deficiencies, and the engagements that had been made by the parliament to his majesty, as well as the services undertaken on account of the war, they found that these articles amounted to about five millions, not including the current service of the year. The supplies amounted accordingly, in the whole, to 7,930,382*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* and they were voted without a division.

The national debt at the end of this year amounted to 71,340,397*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*

The end of an expensive unfortunate war naturally turned the minds of men to schemes of public emolument, and many bills, answering that purpose, were passed in this session.

Ann. 1749.

A most violent contest arose in the house of commons on two bills, relating to the sea and land service; the exceptionable clauses being dropped, they passed both houses. The alarms on the danger of a standing army, on whose virtue the constitution of Great Britain seemed to depend, suggested a scheme for limiting the time beyond which no soldier or non-commissioned officer should be compelled to continue in the service. Had this limitation taken place, such a rotation of soldiers would have ensued among the common people, according to the proposed bill, that in a few years every peasant, labourer, and inferior tradesman in the kingdom, would have understood the exercise of arms, a dan-

ger perhaps more threatening for the constitution ; therefore the bill was lost by postponing its third reading from time to time till the parliament was prorogued.

The king in his speech, and the ministry in the debates, having manifested the most favourable dispositions to promote and extend the trade of the kingdom, a bill was brought in for encouraging the whale fishery on the coast of Spitsbergen, by a bounty of 40s. per ton for every ship equipped for that undertaking ; and this bill, which passed unanimously in both houses, proved very beneficial to the English merchants, particularly in North Britain. The session was closed on the 13th of June.

The sudden dismissal of all the soldiers and seamen, useless in time of peace, having spread numbers of men all over the country, who, having contracted a habit of idleness, and finding themselves without employment, preyed upon the community, and frequently, for the sake of plunder, excited riots, or engaged in them ; in order to provide for these turbulent dangerous men a competent and even comfortable maintenance, without damage to the commonwealth, it was thought expedient to engage them to become members of a new colony in Nova Scotia, in North America. This scheme, which tended likewise to the better peopling and settling of that province, and to the improvement of its fishery, being approved by the king, the board of trade and plantations offered by his orders to every soldier or seaman, in fee-simple, fifty acres of land if single, and if married and having families, ten acres more, with addition according to the increase of their families ; the same to be free from all taxes and quit rents for the space of ten years, and after that, the said ten acres to pay no more than one shilling a-year. More considerable allotments were offered to the officers of all descriptions, from eighty acres

to 600, according to their rank, and a proportionable addition if they had families. All of them were to be defrayed from all expenses of their passage, and of their subsistence during twelve months after their arrival at Nova Scotia; and to be furnished with arms, ammunition, and utensils for clearing the ground. The encouragement given to private soldiers was offered to carpenters, shipwrights, and other artificers, as were necessary in building and husbandry. A civil government was to be established amongst them as soon as possible after their arrival, for their security and protection in their enjoying all the privileges, liberties, and immunities of his majesty's other subjects in America. This excellent plan had an immediate effect for the reformation and quiet of England; for about the beginning of May no fewer than 3750 persons, and families enlisted themselves for Nova Scotia, and as many of them went on board as the transports provided could carry; and very soon after their arrival, a town was planned out and begun, under the name of Halifax, in honour of the earl of Halifax, who presided over the board of trade and plantations. Before the 13th of October the colony was in so flourishing a way that the town was secured by a palisade, and 350 houses were built in it.

On the 16th of November the parliament opened, and the king in his speech expatiated with a particular satisfaction on the flourishing condition of the commerce, the rise of the public credit, and the blessings of good order and tranquillity, owing to the complete re-establishment of a general peace. The addresses of thanks passed both houses without a division. The supplies were not by far so considerable as the last, the whole amounting only to 4,141,661*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*

The most important measure was adopted in this session for the reduction of the interest of the national debt to three per cent. and was carried into execution with complete success, to the great astonishment of all Europe, who could not conceive that so soon after the conclusion of an expensive war, which had so considerably drained the country, and so very much increased the national debt, the government could find money for paying off such of the public creditors as might choose to receive the principal rather than submit to a reduction of the interest. The act was passed, and before the end of February the greater part of the creditors complied with the terms proposed, and subscribed their respective annuities. The Bank, East-India, and South-Sea companies, who at first kept aloof, and refused to subscribe any part of their capital, acquiesced in it on the opening of the second subscription, and their example was followed by the other annuitants. Thus the national burthen was lightened and the sinking fund considerably increased, without producing the least disturbance, or even discontent in the kingdom.

The national debt amounted to 74,221,686*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*

Ann. 1750.

On the 8th of February and March, two shocks of an earthquake threw the people in England into the utmost terror and consternation, which were still increased by a hair-brained enthusiast, who pretended to foretell a third earthquake, which was to lay all London and Westminster in ruins. It had, however, the good effect to turn the attention of the multitude from politics to prayers; and for some time the churches could scarcely contain the

numbers of penitent or rather frightened sinners who resorted to them.

Among the most remarkable commercial improvements adopted in this session, was the encouragement of the British white herring and cod fisheries, by a bill, importing, that a bounty of 30s. per ton should be granted and paid out of the customs to all new vessels from twenty to eighty tons burden, which should be built for that purpose, and actually employed in the fishery; that a society should be incorporated under the name of the Free British Fishery, by a charter not exclusive, with power to raise a capital not exceeding 500,000*l.* and that 3*l.* 10s. per cent. per annum should be paid out of the customs to the proprietors for fourteen years for so much of the capital as should be actually employed in the said fisheries.

On the 12th of April the king closed the session of parliament; and his majesty, having soon after appointed a regency, set out for Hanover.

In the month of May, the prison of Newgate, from the number and stench of the prisoners confined there, contracted an infection, which, at the sittings of the Old Bailey, proved fatal to the lord mayor of London, an alderman, a baron of the exchequer, a judge of the common pleas, many lawyers who attended the sessions, the greatest part of the jury, and a great number of other persons.

The princess of Wales is delivered of a son, May 13th, baptized by the name of Frederic William. On the 24th of October, a messenger arrived with a definitive treaty concluded between their Britannic and Spanish majesties, importing, that the king of Spain engages to pay the South-Sea Company within three months, the sum of 100,000*l.* by way of indemnification, as well for the non execution of the Assiento Treaty, as to make them amends for the four years in which they did not send their an-

anal ships; that the treaties of 1667, 1670, 1713, 1715, and 1721, shall be punctually observed as to the trade and navigation of the English in the ports of the king of Spain's dominions; that the subjects of Great Britain, in the places where they shall come to traffic, shall pay only the same duties as are laid on the subjects of his catholic majesty, who means that the English shall be treated in his dominions on the same footing as the most favoured nations; and, moreover, they shall continue to enjoy the privilege of taking in salt at the island of Tortuga.

This treaty contained no positive stipulation against searching British ships in America, which had given rise to the late war. But the great benefit which Great Britain now derived from her commerce with Spain, and the good understanding existing at this time between the two courts, made the British ministry more tractable on that claim, now treated as being chimerical. The king returns from Hanover, November 4th.

Ann. 1751.

The parliament meets January 17th. The addresses, in answer to the speech from the throne, having passed as usual, the committees appointed to discuss the supplies, proceeded under the direction of the ministry, and the resolutions they proposed met with little or no opposition. The number of the standing forces continued at 18,857 effective men, and the seamen were reduced to 8000. The whole of the supplies that were granted, amounted to 4,989,885*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* including 2,525,023*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* for paying off the principal of such redeemable stocks as had not been subscribed in pursuance of the acts for reducing the interest of annuities.

Great Britain experienced at this juncture, by the death of the prince of Wales, a great and truly

public calamity, on account of the eminent virtues and amiable qualifications with which that excellent prince was endowed. His royal highness had caught a cold in his garden at Kew, about three weeks before, and having neglected it, it ended in a pleurisy, of which he died, March 20th, in the 45th year of his age, to the unspeakable sorrow of his royal consort, and of all who wished well to their country, whose constitution, laws, and interests no prince ever knew better than he did. All men who had acquired a superior knowledge of any kind, were entitled to his patronage and munificence; several poets of great reputation, and writers of merit, were pensioned by his liberality. Some time before his death, he had acquired a true notion of the state and views of the several parties in court and parliament; and he had lived long enough to perceive from his own experience, that all opposition commonly terminated in interest. (*Tindal, vol. xxi. p. 430.*) Some days before his death, but without any presentiment of it, he embraced his eldest son with great tenderness, and with these expressions, "*Come, George, let us be good friends while we are suffered to be so;*" observing with some concern, that in his family, the eldest sons were seldom known to live long in good correspondence with their fathers; and his very expressions to the prince pointed out to him, as the contrivers of such unnatural divisions, those artful intriguers or hot-headed party men, who in their antiministerial schemes did not scruple at ensnaring the princes, so as to make them the tools of opposition against their royal father under the deceitful pretence of public good.

A very important question was laid before parliament on this occasion, by a message from the king, importing, that nothing could conduce so much to the preservation of the protestant succession in his

royal family, as proper provisions for the tuition of the person of his successor, and for the regular administration of the government, in case the successor should be of tender years. His majesty proposed, that when the crown should descend to any of the late prince's sons, being under the age of eighteen years, his mother, the princess dowager of Wales, should be guardian of his person, and regent of Great Britain, with such powers and limitations as should appear necessary, until he should attain the age of majority. On the discussion of the bill framed for that purpose, some of the most learned men in the kingdom proposed a council of regency to be joined with her royal highness in the executive part of government, and the same was recommended by his majesty in a second message; while others of equal consideration were for having her royal highness declared sole regent, without being clogged by any such council: but his majesty's recommendation had such weight, that the bill passed both houses with a few inconsiderable amendments.

One of the most remarkable acts which passed in the course of this session, was that for regulating the commencement of the year, and correcting the calendar according to the Gregorian computation, which had been adopted by all other nations in Europe. By this new law it was decreed, that the new year should begin on the first day of January, and that eleven intermediate nominal days between the second and fourteenth days of September, 1752, should for that time be omitted, so that the day succeeding the second, should be denominated the fourteenth of that month. This adoption of the new style, greatly simplified the correspondence between the English merchants and those of foreign countries, with respect to the dates of letters and accounts.

The earl of Orford, Robert Walpole, died March 31st, aged 51 years.

On the 25th of June, the king put an end to the session. The events which occurred in the interval between this session and the next, were of little importance, and even the transactions of the latter, the most unanimous ever known, produced nothing more remarkable than the reduction of all the public funds into a single one. There existed at this time, many funds for annuities established at different periods, and of course by different acts, which made it necessary to keep as many distinct accounts no less expensive than troublesome. The several stocks of annuities were no fewer than eight at 3 per cent. and amounted in the whole to 9,137,821*l.* 5*s.* 1½*d.* principal money; there were also six other stocks of annuities, amounting to 17,701,323*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* at 3*l.* 10*s.* per cent. from January 1756, to January 5th, 1758, when they were to be reduced to 3 per cent. Now a bill was carried through both houses without any opposition, for converting these several annuities into several joint stocks of annuities, transferable at the bank of England, to be charged on the sinking fund, and for other purposes mentioned in the act.

The whole supplies voted for the service of the next year, amounted to 3,907,435*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* The 18,857 land forces were continued, and the number of seamen was fixed at 10,000.

On the pressing representations of the British minister, the king of Spain at last issued an order to all governors and commanders of ships in the Spanish West Indies—"not to molest or interrupt the navigation and commerce of the English in the West Indian seas, nor to stop any vessels belonging to that nation, on any pretence whatever, unless actually found carrying on the contraband trade prohibited by treaties. Commanders of

“ the king’s ships or guarda-costas, to be severely punished, should they presume to disobey this order.”

A royal charter is granted by his majesty for incorporating several of his subjects therein named, by the denomination of the *Society of the Antiquaries of London*.

Ann. 1752.

The repeated attempts for naturalization bills having failed, several foreigners coming over into England, had obtained private acts of parliament for their naturalization, with a view to avoid the payment of aliens duties on the goods and merchandizes which they transported from foreign parts into Great Britain, and afterwards returned back into their own country, where they constantly resided ; consequently bearing no part of the public taxes, nor contributing in any manner towards the support of the state. In order to prevent these abuses, a great number of the merchants of the city of London presented a petition, praying, that the benefit of the naturalization should be restrained to the time during which such foreigners should reside within the realm, in such a manner and under such limitations as to the house should appear fit. A clause to that purpose was accordingly inserted in a naturalization bill then depending, and it has been since inserted in all naturalization bills. The parliament was prorogued March 26th, and soon after the king appointed a regency, and set out for Hanover ; after having ratified two treaties of peace and commerce with the states of Tripoli and Tunis, concluded under the influence of an English squadron.

The national debt now stood at the sum of 74,368,415*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*

Ann. 1753.

The king being returned from the continent, the parliament met January 11th. His majesty took notice in his speech of the good dispositions he had found in his allies, to preserve the tranquillity of Europe. As to the supplies, he asked only what should be necessary for the ordinary services. The number of land and sea forces voted last year was continued, and the sums granted for the several articles of the supply amounted in the whole to 2,132,707*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*

An excellent bill passed this session, enforcing the laws against persons who shall steal or detain shipwrecked goods, and enacting that they shall be prosecuted at the expense of the county where such offences should be committed. The Jews, after many petitions, counter-petitions and long debates, were permitted to be naturalized by parliament, an act which was repealed in the next session. The famous broad-wheel waggon bill, to which Great Britain is indebted, in a great measure, for the better improvement and preservation of her great roads at a more moderate expense, passed likewise this session, as well as the bill for the better preventing clandestine marriages. But another act of this session, which, to the latest posterity will be recorded with the utmost gratitude by all historians, is the act for purchasing the Museum or collection of sir Hans Sloane, and the Harleian collection of manuscripts, and for providing one general repository for them, and for the Cottonian library, which had long been so famous all over Europe, especially for its vast collection of British historical manuscripts. By means of the bill above mentioned, all these collections, consisting of about 120,000 printed books, and 20,000 large volumes of manuscripts, including

the king's library, which was likewise a very fine one, were united under one roof, and put by proper regulations under the administration of a certain number of governors and trustees composed of the most eminent persons in the kingdom for their stations or learning, and all of them appointed in consequence of an act of parliament. This immense and truly national repository daily increasing in riches, will still more increase in utility and conveniency, whenever chronological catalogues of these precious documents, divided by order of matters, with an alphabetical index, will be completed, and the volumes of manuscripts recomposed in the same order. This capital improvement may be expected from the active and enlightened zeal of the present speaker of the house of commons, Mr. Abbot; and it requires no less abilities and assiduity than those of Mr. Planta, the principal librarian of that establishment.

The parliament was prorogued on the 7th of June. The most remarkable occurrences in England during the course of this year, consisted chiefly in the extraordinary and melancholy effects of repeated hurricanes and inundations, in sundry commotions and tumults about the scarcity of corn and the high price of bread, and in the continuance of robberies and murders, which filled all the jails with criminals, whose number was increased to such a degree, that at the opening of the session November 15th, the king in his speech earnestly recommended this important object to the attention of both houses. The commons continued the same number of seamen and land forces for the ensuing year, and made suitable provision for all the exigencies of government. The whole supply amounted to 2,797,916*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*; and the national debt to 73,075,687*l.* 8*s.* 5½*d.*

Ann. 1754.

The mutiny act is extended to the East Indies for punishing mutiny and desertion of officers and soldiers in the service of the Company of English merchants trading to the East Indies, or at the island of St. Helena.

The chancellor of the exchequer, Mr. Pelham, died in the beginning of March, and was the more deservedly regretted that England very seldom enjoyed such a state of political tranquillity as she did under his administration. His abilities were not by far adequate to his virtues, but the latter supplied completely the deficiencies of the former by the great confidence they generally inspired, and all his measures were attended with as much success as men of the greatest talents ever obtained. His great principle of government was to avoid party of every kind, but his native candour, a certain unreservedness he had about him, and the unaffected complacency of his manners towards those who differed from his opinion, very seldom failed to win them over.

On the 6th of April the king put an end to the session, and three days after, his majesty dissolved the parliament by proclamation.

The English government was at this time in great perplexity about the encroachments of the French in America. Since the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, they had been continually making settlements upon the English territory, and lately on the western part of Virginia upon the river Ohio. It was even found that the Indians, called *the six nations*, who by the treaty of Utrecht were declared subjects of Great Britain, had been entirely debauched by the French, who next contrived to cut them off from all communication with the English. With

this view, they seized the persons and effects of all the English whom they found trading with those Indians, and they built a chain of forts from Canada to Mississippi, to prevent all communication between them; so that in a very few years, all the eastern as well as the western colonies of Great Britain were in danger of being ruined. The complaints of the English government to the French ministry, received but evasive answers or vain promises of amicable adjustment attended only by more hostile usurpations. General orders were sent accordingly to all the English governors in America to repel force by force. Soon after, the governor of New York was directed to hold an interview with the chiefs of the *six nations*, and to endeavour to bring them off from the French interest by means of a considerable sum of money to be laid out in presents for that purpose. He succeeded in bringing them to desire the assistance of the English in driving the French from their usurpations. Colonel Washington, accordingly, took post with 400 men upon the banks of the Ohio, where he had thrown up some works forming a kind of fort, which he called Fort Necessity, and where he expected to be joined by 500 men from New York. Previous to the junction, the commander of the French settlements on the Ohio, sent to him a French officer of the name of Jumonville, with an escort of thirty men and a formal summons to quit the fort, under pretence that it was built upon ground belonging to the French or their allies. This party being guilty, or at least accused of some hostilities, was cut off or made prisoners. Jumonville was among the slain, and his death has always been represented by the French as a wilful murder. The chevalier de Villiers, his brother, was entrusted with the command of a strong detachment to revenge Jumonville's death. Washington, who has since attached so much cele-

brity to his name, being then attacked and defeated by a superior force, was obliged to give up the fort he occupied, though it was unquestionably within the English territory. His majesty instructed the earl of Albemarle his ambassador, to represent it at the court of France as a formal breach of the peace.

In the mean time the governor of the French East-India Company at Pondicherry, entered into an alliance with two Nabobs, to depose that of Arcot, whom he had discovered to be attached to the English. They came up with him on the plains of Arcot; his army was routed, and he himself was killed; but his son made his escape, and took shelter in a strong place, where he received some succours from the English. At this juncture, Mr. Clive, the son of an attorney in London, who had gone out as clerk or writer in the East-India Company's service, gave the first specimen of those conspicuous military talents he was naturally endowed with. Employed at first as a volunteer, with a very inconsiderable force, he rapidly raised himself to commands of greater importance by the uninterrupted series of his victories over the French, till the English and French East-India Companies concluded a convention for restoring peace to that country.

The settlement of the quarrel upon the bank of the river Ohio, was daily protracted by new difficulties. Commissioners had been appointed and conferences opened at Paris to determine the contests between the two crowns, relating to the boundaries of Nova Scotia, called by the French *Acadia*; a country which had frequently changed hands from the French to the English, and from the English back again to the French. But the right of Great Britain to it was finally settled by the twelfth article of the treaty of Utrecht, by which all the country included within the ancient limits of what was called *Nova Scotia* or *Acadia*, was ceded to the

English. This article was confirmed by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, but the bounds intended to be fixed by the two nations with respect to this province, were not distinctly ascertained; thence arose the disputes which commissaries appointed on both sides were to adjust. Those sent by his Britannic majesty, agreeably to the rule laid down by the treaty itself, assigned as the ancient limits of that country, those which had always passed as such from the earliest times down to the conclusion of the treaty, which the two crowns had frequently declared, and the French particularly often allowed to be such. To this statement, supported by a series of authentic documents, the French commissaries chiefly opposed maps which were confuted by contrary ones; so that this geographical contest became interminable. In the mean time the French were building forts on the territories of the British allies, particularly at Niagara, while the English, after many useless complaints to the French governors, erected places of strength and security on the river Ohio. Three English Indian traders, taken by the French on the Ohio, had been carried prisoners to Quebec, and from thence sent to France; about the same time and upon the same account, some Englishmen had been taken prisoners. Lord Albemarle claiming them as British subjects, together with the restitution of their effects, and that the fort, built at Niagara should be instantly razed, had succeeded on the first point, but could never obtain any decision on his second demand. In short, at the opening of the last session, every thing in North America seemed to prognosticate war; yet his majesty probably entertaining strong hopes of bringing all matters to a conciliation, declared that the continuance of the public tranquillity and the general state of Europe, remained on the same footing; and assured both houses of his steadiness in pursu-

ing the most effectual measures to preserve to his people the blessings of peace.

This long, though most abridged account, deserves the more attention, that the litigations elucidated by it, laid the great foundation of the hostilities that immediately followed.

The new parliament having been prorogued on the 5th of June, after a session of six days, met again November 14th, and it was remarked that the king in his speech took little or no notice of the national differences with France, but mentioned that the general state of affairs in Europe had received very little alterations since their last meeting.

The whole amount of the supply granted this session, was 4,073,779*l.*; one million of which was destined for enabling his majesty to augment his forces by land and by sea, as it was well known that the French were exerting themselves at Brest and other of their ports, in fitting out a powerful naval armament, on board of which, a great body of troops was to be embarked; no secret was even made that the whole was designed to support their settlements in North America. Amongst the ways and means to procure the money for the supply, one was, that a sum not exceeding one million should be raised by way of lottery; 100,000*l.* thereof to be deducted for the prizes, and the remaining 900,000*l.* to be charged on the produce of the sinking fund, at the rate of three per cent per annum; the tickets to be 10*l.* each, two pounds whereof to be paid down by way of deposit at the time of the subscription.

Ann. 1755.

On the 27th of March both houses are acquainted by a message from his majesty, that the present situation of affairs makes it requisite to augment his

forces by sea and by land, and to take such other measures as may best tend to preserve the general peace of Europe, and to secure the just rights and possessions of his crown in America, as well as to repel any attempts whatsoever that may be made to support or countenance any designs which may be formed against his majesty and his kingdoms. It was on this occasion that the million already mentioned in the general account of the supplies, was voted, as well as a most dutiful address to his majesty; yet the strongest assurances were given at Paris to the earl of Albemarle, that no hostilities were intended by France against Great Britain or her dependencies. The same assurances were transmitted to the British ministry by the duke of Mirepoix, the French ambassador. The preparations, however, were so notorious, that the duke was upbraided at St. James's for his insincerity, and the proofs of his court's double dealing were laid before him. He was so struck with them, that he went over to France, where he reproached the ministry for having made him the tool of such an imposition. They referred him to the king, who ordered him to return to England with fresh assurances of friendship; but he had scarcely delivered them when positive intelligence was received, that a French fleet from Brest and Rochefort was ready to sail, with a great number of land forces on board. Upon this, eleven ships of the line and one frigate, with about 6000 men on board, were immediately fitted out, under admiral Boscawen, who sailed on the 23d of April, and was reinforced in his way by admiral Holborne with six ships of the line and one frigate, as it was reported or supposed that the French fleet was to consist of 25 ships of the line, besides frigates and transports.

The king put an end to the session on the 25th of April, and declared in his speech from the throne,

that he had religiously adhered to the stipulations of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, and made it his care not to offend or injure any power whatsoever; but never could entertain the thoughts of purchasing the name of peace at the expense of suffering encroachments upon, or yielding up what justly belongs to Great Britain, either by ancient possession, or solemn treaties; that if reasonable and honourable terms of accommodation could be agreed upon, he would be satisfied, and in all events rely on the justice of his cause, the effectual support of his people, and the protection of Divine Providence. Three days after his majesty set out for Hanover.

It appears that the French court still entertained the idea that Great Britain, out of tenderness for his majesty's German dominions, might be terrified into a relaxation of her rights in America, and Mr. de Bussy, one of the first secretaries of the foreign department at Versailles, was sent to Hanover, to remonstrate against the ferment now prevailing in England, and to propose terms of conciliation. The duke of Mirepoix continued in his pacific assurances, and had frequent conferences with the British ministry, who at last openly declared to him, that their admirals, particularly Boscawen, had orders to fall upon the French ships wherever they could meet with them, which they had already done without any opposition, as the French sea officers were ordered to surrender without any resistance, on the supposition that all ships taken previous to a declaration of war must be restored; and Lewis XV. so strictly adhered to this line of conduct, that an English frigate being taken by a French one, he ordered her to be released, saying, "that he would neither make war in time of peace, nor be the foremost in Europe towards infringing the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle." (*President Henault's Continuation*, vol. iv. p. 279.)

When the declaration, made by the British ministry to the duke de Mirepoix, was known in France, Mr. de Bussy was recalled from Hanover; and the duke made, in the name of his master, a formal declaration to the cabinet of St. James's, that the first gun that was fired in hostility should kindle all Europe into a war.

This menace, far from intimidating the English, made them increase and accelerate their warlike preparations. The press for seamen was carried on with great vigour in all parts of the kingdom and in Ireland, but great numbers entered voluntarily. Such a patriotic spirit prevailed, that almost all the considerable towns gave large rewards, in addition to his majesty's bounty, to such able seamen and landmen as would enter in his army or navy. Other branches of the public service went on with the same alacrity, and a sum of almost four millions instead of one was subscribed to the lottery. In the mean time the Brest fleet, consisting of nine ships of the line, and transports for about 3000 troops, had sailed, May 6, to North America, to reinforce and supply with stores the French garrisons in Canada. The fleet was commanded by Mr. Dubois de la Mothe, and the land forces were under baron Dieskau. On their landing, the baron at the head of his troops marched to Fort Duquesne, where the French had just obtained a complete victory over general Braddock, who by imprudently neglecting to employ the friendly Indians that were with him in reconnoitring, or as an advanced guard, in case of ambuscade, was attacked by one, which was so artfully concealed, that his officers and men were falling thick about him, without any one being able to discover the hand from which his destruction came. Braddock himself received several wounds, some of which proved mortal, and thus wiped away all the errors of his conduct by an honourable

death for his country. A sudden panic then threw into disorder the rest of his army ; they fled with the utmost precipitation, after having sustained a loss of about 700 men in killed or wounded. Another engagement soon after took place, when baron Dieskau, at the head of an army consisting of between 2 and 3000 men, having put to rout the English troops, pursued them with impetuosity as far as under the entrenchments of general Johnson, who commanded the expedition destined against Crown-Point ; but there the French met with a severe repulse, and were in their turn pursued with great loss by the provincial troops. Baron Dieskau was mortally wounded and taken prisoner, and above 800 of his men were cut in pieces. In the mean time colonel Monkton completely succeeded in driving the French from their forts in the bay of Fundy, particularly that of Beau Séjour.

Thus while in North America the English and the French, accusing each other of usurpation, and of course of offensive hostilities, respectively qualified their own as merely defensive, the French carefully declined in Europe all acts of aggression, to throw the whole odium of the war upon Great Britain. The English on their part, considering the encroachments of the French in America as a manifest violation of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, represented their own naval expeditions against them as just and lawful reprisals, though without any declaration of war, which king George did not choose to proclaim. as its being first issued by the French would have constituted them the aggressors, and therefore enabled him to claim from other powers the execution of their treaties of defensive alliance with him. His majesty at the same time concluded a new treaty with the landgrave of Hesse Cassel, for taking into his pay 8000 Hessian troops.

While Boscawen's fleet lay before Cape Race, on

the banks of Newfoundland, as a proper station for intercepting the enemy, two French ships of Dubois de la Mothe's squadron, the *Alcide*, of 64 guns and 480 men, and the *Lys*, pierced for 64 guns, but mounting only 22, and having eight companies of land forces on board, with about 8000*l.* fell in with a part of the English fleet, and were taken after a smart engagement. This news was of infinite service to the public credit in England, as it plainly proved that the English government was resolved to observe no further measures with the French but to take or destroy their ships wherever they could be met with. The French trade was accordingly destroyed every where by the English cruisers, and before Christmas no fewer than 300 merchant ships, many of which richly laden, and 8000 sailors, were carried into English ports. *L'Espérance*, another French ship of the line, mounting only 24 guns, though pierced for 64, experienced the same fate, November 11, after an engagement of nearly five hours, against the *Orford*, of 74 guns. Viscount Bouville, who commanded *L'Espérance*, struck his flag only at the very moment when his ship was ready to sink, so that the English captain had scarcely sufficient time to save these gallant seamen, who on board of their enemies found only generous friends, and sincere admirers of their noble and vigorous defence.

As soon as the news of admiral Boscawen's action against the two French ships was received in France, the duke de Mirepoix was recalled from London, with the loudest complaints against such a breach of national faith. The war, though not proclaimed, being thus begun, the king thought it proper not to postpone any longer his return to his British dominions. He arrived at Kensington on the 15th of September, where the treaty he had been negotiating with the empress of Russia was concluded on

the 30th of the same month. By this treaty her Russian majesty engaged to hold in readiness in Livonia, 40,000 foot, with the necessary artillery, and 15,000 horse, as also forty or fifty gallies on the coast of the same province, to be ready to act in case the dominions of his Britannic majesty in Germany should be invaded on account of the present disputes, and provided his Britannic majesty or his allies should be somewhere attacked. But the auxiliaries stipulated to the king by treaty from the empress queen, were refused by her majesty, under pretence that as the present contest related to America only, it was not a case to which the treaty might be applicable.

The parliament met November 13; both houses in their addresses acknowledged the wisdom of all his majesty's measures, and thanked him for his royal firmness in not yielding to any terms of accommodation with France that were not reasonable and honourable, and for exerting his royal care so powerfully in the protection of his colonies. In the house of commons the address met with some opposition respecting the treaties with Hesse and Russia; it passed, however, without a division; 50,000 seamen, including 9138 marines, and 34,263 land troops, were voted for the ensuing year, as well as the subsidies to the foreign powers; and the total of the supply granted this session amounted to no less than 7,229,117*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*

At this period the whole world was thrown all of a sudden into the most dreadful alarm and consternation by that tremendous earthquake which, on the 1st of November, shook all the southern part of Europe, threatened Spain and Portugal with utter destruction, laid the city of Lisbon in ruin, and destroyed above 10,000 of its inhabitants.

No sooner an authentic account of these disasters reached England, than the king, moved with the

greatest concern for so good and faithful ally as the king of Portugal, and for the distresses to which that kingdom and its capital must be reduced, recommended this dreadful calamity to the house of lords by a message, desiring their concurrence and assistance in sending such speedy and effectual relief as might be suitable to such an affecting and pressing exigency. This message being read in the house, produced an unanimous address of thanks for it to his majesty, and a sum of 100,000*l.* was immediately voted in the committee of supply for assisting the distressed people of Portugal; and the next day the king went to the house of lords to give his assent to the bill. As these unfortunate victims stood chiefly in need of necessaries of life, they were supplied with great provisions of corn, flour, rice, and beef from Ireland, with an eagerness the more remarkable that, at that time, the people of England were themselves greatly distressed for want of corn.

History bowing with due reverence at these awful warnings of divine wrath; and deploring their fatal consequences, contemplates and records with delight these instances of national humanity exhibited by a generous people, forgetting their own wants to relieve those of another nation in distress, and readily acting the part of a bountiful providence towards all unfortunate sufferers. In the course of these annals, and in the accounts relating to the events of the present year 1811, it will be found that Portugal, desolated again by another scourge, no less destructive than an earthquake, has been equally relieved by all classes of the English nation, in such a manner as to evince, to the everlasting honour of Great Britain, that her sons are far from being degenerated.

The public debt on the 31st of December amounted to 72,949,986*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

Ann. 1756.

The mutiny bill, passed this session, enacted, as the last, that all officers and soldiers raised in America by authority of the respective governors or governments there, should be subjected to the same rules and articles of war, and the same penalties and punishments as the British forces were liable to; and for the more speedy and effectual renewing of his majesty's land forces, it was further enacted, that the commissioners appointed by the present act should be empowered to raise and levy within their respective jurisdiction, such able-bodied men as did not follow any lawful calling or employment, and might order whoever and whenever they pleased, a general search to be made for such persons, in order to their being brought before them to be examined, and when found to be within the above description to be deemed listed soldiers, and not to be taken out of his majesty's service by any process other than for some criminal matter; a measure which shewed plainly both the zeal of the parliament for a vigorous prosecution of the war, and their confidence in the justice and moderation of the ministry, as in the hands of a wicked and enterprising administration, this act, which was to continue in force till the end of the next session, might have been used very inconsistently with the constitutional security and liberty of the subject.

The administration of the marquis of Hartington, lord lieutenant of Ireland, was attended with the happiest success. By his steady and disinterested conduct, his candour and humanity, the Irish were not only brought to a better temper among themselves, but to a full acquiescence in the measures of England.

A squadron of ten ships of the line, under the

command of admiral Byng, is ordered to the Mediterranean, with directions to the admiral for going on instantly to Minorca, if no French squadron had passed the Straits, and to exert his utmost vigilance in protecting that island, and also Gibraltar, from any hostile attempt. He arrives at Gibraltar, May 2, and there receives the news that la Galissoniere the French admiral, had sailed from Toulon with twelve ships of the line, five frigates, a large number of transports, having on board 12,000 men, and instead of steering to America, as it was apprehended, had landed the troops at Minorca, and invested Fort St. Philip.

While the utmost anxiety prevailed in England about the event of this expedition, the system of affairs in Europe was entirely changed, owing to a discovery made by the king of Prussia, that a secret envoy had been employed for some time at the court of Petersburg, on the part of France, to co-operate with the Austrian minister in bringing the empress of Russia into their measures, and in which they had completely succeeded. His Prussian majesty plainly perceived that should the Russians, in the pay of Great Britain, get footing in Germany, his own situation, and particularly his claim on Silesia, might become more precarious; that the czarina had declared she was ready to send 20,000 more troops to the assistance of Great Britain than had been stipulated. This apprehension determined his Prussian majesty to issue a solemn protestation against the introduction of any foreign troops into Germany, declaring that he would draw the sword against the French, as readily as against any others.

As necessity alone had ever induced king George to apply for Russian auxiliaries, the danger of employing them naturally prompted him to second the views of his nephew, as they had now a common cause, the prevention of foreign troops getting foot-

ing in Germany. A convention was therefore entered into between them, the substance of which was, that their majesties having always much at heart the welfare and safety of Germany, their common country, and being extremely desirous of maintaining her peace and tranquillity, had agreed upon a convention of neutrality, which related only to Germany, and by which their majesties bound themselves not to suffer foreign troops of any nation whatsoever to enter Germany, or pass through it, but to oppose them in all cases with all their power, in order to secure Germany from the calamities of war, maintain her fundamental laws and constitution, and preserve her peace uninterrupted, which was the sole object of the convention. Their majesties adjusted at the same time some differences existing between them, concerning certain sums of money due to their respective subjects.

This treaty being brought afterwards into a regular form, was presented to the house of commons, May 11, with a message from the king, expressing his desire of being enabled to make good the engagements he had entered into by this treaty, and to take such measures as might be necessary, to disappoint or defeat any enterprises or designs of his enemies. This message was answered by a most dutiful address, and by an immediate and unanimous vote of one million for such measures as might be necessary for defeating the enemy's designs, and as the exigency of affairs might require; this vote was passed, May 13, and on the 17th of the same month 20,000*l.* more were voted, for making good his majesty's engagements with the king of Prussia.

In the beginning of this year Mr. Rouillé, the French minister, and secretary of state for foreign affairs, had, by his master's orders written a letter to Mr. Fox, lately appointed secretary of state, accusing the proceedings of the English by sea, as

- being no better than piracies, and demanded a signal reparation for the insult offered to his flag, and the damages done to his subjects, as well as immediate and full restitution of all the French ships, and of all the officers, soldiers, mariners, guns, stores, merchandizes, and goods of any kind, belonging to them, insinuating, that upon such a restitution the king of France would be disposed to enter into a negociation for further satisfaction legally due to him, and to have the discussions relating to America determined by an equitable and solid accommodation; but that the refusal of the king of England to comply with these demands, would be considered by his most christian majesty as the most authentic declaration of war, and as a formed design in the court of London to disturb the peace of Europe.

The substance of Mr. Fox's answer to this letter was, that though his Britannic majesty continued desirous of preserving the public tranquillity, and was disposed to consent to an equitable and solid accommodation, he could not grant the restitution asked for as the preliminary condition of any negociation, his majesty having taken no step but what the hostilities begun by France in the time of profound peace (of which he had the most authentic proofs), and what his majesty owed to his own honour, to the defence of the rights and possessions of his crown, and the security of his kingdoms rendered just and indisputable.

Matters being brought to this point, each power set about drawing memorials and manifestos. The king of France ordered all British subjects to leave his dominions, issued out orders for reprisals, gave extraordinary encouragement to privateers, and disposed every thing towards carrying on a vigorous war both by land and sea. In England, the spirit which animated the whole nation against France

manifested itself in the general eagerness of the people to enlist themselves as recruits both for sea and land service ; a great many among them who were born to estates, or brought up to trades, entered on board privateers, of which great numbers were fitted out ; many of 30, and several between 30 and 50 guns.

The English minister at the Hague was ordered to make a requisition of the 6000 troops, which the Dutch were obliged to furnish pursuant to their treaties with Great Britain. But they had now thrown themselves into the arms of France, and were already speculating on the immense profits they imagined they could derive from carrying on the French trade during the approaching war. They accordingly declared their resolution of remaining neutral, and not to depart from it until they were obliged to do so by good faith and the religion of inviolable engagements, which they lay under by treaty to several powers. Though the Dutch expressed so much regard for their treaties with other powers, and none at all for that which they had contracted with Great Britain, the French court found this answer a little too indefinite, and imperiously demanded a categorical declaration as to the succours which their High Mightinesses were to furnish to England, otherwise threatening them with a declaration of war. The British ministry, apprehending that the Dutch, awed by France, might be induced to a positive acknowledgement in her favour, prevented it by directing the British minister at the Hague, to desist from his demand of the 6000 men ; so that the Dutch came to a formal resolution of continuing neutral.

War is proclaimed by Great Britain with great solemnity against France, May 18 ; and the lords of the Admiralty are empowered to grant letters of marque against the French, who, on their part,

begin to repair and fortify Dunkirk, seize many English vessels in the different ports of that kingdom, and send their crews to prison. The French king issues an edict inviting his subjects to equip privateers, offering a premium of forty livres for every gun, and as much for every man they should take from the enemy. A formidable squadron with a great number of transports are equipped at Brest, and a strong body of land forces is assembled thither, threatening Great Britain with invasion.

The Hanoverian troops in British pay, together with the usual detachment of artillery, which his majesty had sent for in consequence of an address from both houses, for the protection of Great Britain against the threatened invasion from France, land to the number of 1000, at Chatham, May 21, to the great displeasure of many people, who considered as a disgrace that they should owe their security to German mercenaries, and this discontent naturally emerged in proportion as the fears of an invasion subsided. Accounts are received from America, respecting the taking of Oswego by the French.

The parliament is prorogued, June 30. Four ships of the line, with transports and troops on board, are sent to reinforce admiral Byng's squadron in the Mediterranean. Next day accounts are received that admiral Byng had fallen in with the French squadron, rather superior to his own in weight of metal and number of men, and that neither had done much damage to the other. The particulars of this engagement, such as given by the admiral himself, appearing unsatisfactory to his majesty, the admirals Hawke and Saunders, and lord Tyrawley, are sent, the two former to succeed admiral Byng in the command of the fleet, and the latter to succeed general Fowke in the government of Gibraltar. Admiral Hawke was directed to send

home admiral Byng in arrest ; and on his arrival in England he was committed close prisoner in an apartment of Greenwich Hospital.

In the mean time the French prosecuted with unremitting vigour the siege of St. Philip's fort, in Minorca, whose garrison did not exceed four regiments, whereas the nature of the works required at least double the number ; and even of these, above forty officers were absent. The chief engineer was lame by the gout, and the general himself disabled by the infirmities of old age. They made, however, the most obstinate resistance, but being invested with an army of 12,000 men, under the command of mareschal de Richelieu, and plied incessantly from sixty-two battering cannon, and a proportional number of mortars and howitzers, they surrendered towards the latter end of June, and obtained honourable terms of capitulation, in consideration of their gallant defence. The loss of Minorca was felt in England as a national disgrace, and excited a general clamour of indignation and resentment against admiral Byng, who had retreated from the French squadron.

The first prosecution that took place on this occasion, was that against general Fowke, now brought to trial before a board of general officers, and accused of having disobeyed the orders of government respecting the relief of Minorca. The question being put to acquit or suspend him for one year, the court was equally divided ; but the president's casting vote decided the question against the prisoner, and the king thought fit to dismiss him from his service.

In the month of May the Suba of Bengal, at the head of a numerous army, invested Calcutta, which was then in no posture of defence. The governor abandoned the fort with some principal persons residing in the settlement, and took refuge on board a

ship in the river, carrying along with them their most valuable effects and the books of the company. Mr. Holwell, the second in command, assisted by a few gallant officers and a very feeble garrison, maintained the place with uncommon courage against several attacks, until, being overpowered by numbers, he was obliged to submit, on the promise of the Suba that no injury should be done to him or his garrison. Nevertheless, they were driven, to the number of 146 persons of both sexes, into a place called *the Black-Hole Prison*, a cube of about eighteen feet, walled up to the eastward and southward, the only quarters from which they could expect the least refreshing air. Out of these hapless victims no less than 123 died during the night in the horrid agonies of thirst, rage, and suffocation. The survivors were released next morning, but Mr. Holwell and three of his friends were loaded with fetters, and conveyed three miles from the Indian camp, where they lay all night exposed to a severe rain, and were brought back to town the following day under the scorching beams of a sun intensely hot, to be embarked in an open boat for Muxadavad, the capital of Bengal. They underwent such cruel treatment and misery in their passage, that the particulars would be too shocking to relate.

In England, the riots on account of the dearness of corn rise in many places to a greater height than ever; the regular troops are employed in suppressing them, and a proclamation is published for putting the laws in speedy and effectual execution against the forestallers and engrossers of corn. The fear of an invasion being now much abated, and Hanover being supposed in greater danger, the Hanoverian auxiliaries are sent back to their country.

An account comes from vice-admiral Watson in the East Indies, that he had taken and demolished

Geriah Fort belonging to Tulagee Angria, who was treating with the Mahrattas, to whom he intended to surrender the fort.

The parliament meets December 2nd, and is opened with a most popular speech from the throne. The house of commons, after voting the usual address, resolves itself into a committee to deliberate on that part of his majesty's speech relating to the dearth of corn; and a bill is immediately framed to prohibit for a limited time, the exportation of corn, malt, meal, flour, bread, biscuit and starch. In the mean time a resolution is unanimously taken to address his majesty, that an embargo might be forthwith laid upon all ships laden with these commodities to be exported from the ports of Great Britain and Ireland, and the king immediately complies with this demand.

Mr. Fox having resigned the seals as one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state, he is succeeded in the office December 4th, by Mr. Pitt, and many inferior promotions take place at the same time.

The famous adventurer Theodore, the son of baron Newhoff, born at Metz in 1669, who had succeeded by his intrigues to be elected and crowned king of Corsica, April 15th, 1736, by the Corsican malcontents, died in London, December 11th, immediately after leaving the king's bench prison, by the benefit of the act of insolvency, in consequence of which, he registered his kingdom of Corsica for the use of his creditors.

Admiral Byng is brought to his trial December 27th, before the court martial ordered for that purpose on board the St. George in Portsmouth harbour.

The committee of supply being appointed, 55,000 sailors, including marines and 49,749 land forces, are voted for the service of the ensuing year. The supply for the maintenance of these forces as well

as for the troops of Hesse and Hanover, for the ordnance and the levy of new regiments, to pay the subsidies, and defray all other expenses, amounted to 8,350,325*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*; and the funds established for it, presented an overplus of 338,726*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* in case the lottery, which was founded on a new plan, should not succeed.

Ann. 1757.

The scarcity of corn still continuing to an alarming degree, all possible measures were taken for the relief of the poor. Several bills were passed for prohibiting all kinds of provisions to be sent out of the kingdom, for removing, during a limited time, the duty then payable upon foreign corn and flour imported, permitting such as had been or should be taken from the enemy to be landed and expended in the kingdom, duty free; it was likewise resolved that no spirits should be distilled from wheat, barley, malt, and all grain whatsoever, for a limited time.

The king sends a message to the house of commons, informing them that the formidable preparations of France and her allies, threaten Europe in general with the most alarming consequences; and as they are bent against the dominions of Hanover and those of the king of Prussia, his majesty confides that the commons will assist him in forming and maintaining an army of observation, and enable him to fulfil his engagements with his Prussian majesty, which is immediately complied with.

A strict inquiry was now entered into by the house of commons respecting the conduct of the ministry and of the late board of admiralty, from the time that they received the first intelligence of the French intending to invade Minorca, to the time of the action between admiral Byng and La

Galissoniere. But after the most assiduous scrutiny and long debates on all the papers laid before them, no discovery was made to ground any reproach against the ministry.

Admiral Byng, after a very long trial, had been condemned to death by a court martial, for having, in their opinion, fallen under part of the twelfth article of war, by not doing his utmost to engage the enemy; but as it did not appear to the court that he acted either through cowardice or disaffection, they unanimously recommended him to mercy, an intercession which had generally, if not always, prevailed at the foot of the throne, when any thing favourable for the criminal had appeared in the course of the trial. But the cry of vengeance was loud throughout the kingdom, and the king was given to understand, that in the present circumstances, the execution of admiral Byng was absolutely necessary to appease the people and to revive their confidence towards the government. However, the king being informed that a member of parliament who had sat upon the court martial, had made application to the house of commons in behalf of himself and of several other members of that court, to be released from the oath of secrecy imposed on courts-martial, that they might disclose the grounds on which sentence of death had passed on admiral Byng, and perhaps discover such circumstances as might show the sentence to be improper; his majesty sent a message to the house of commons, importing that though he had determined to let the law take its course towards admiral Byng, and resisted all solicitations to the contrary, yet, as a member of the house had expressed some scruples about the sentence, his majesty had thought fit to respite its execution, that there might be an opportunity of knowing by a separate examination of the court martial, whether admiral Byng

had been justly condemned or not. A bill was brought in accordingly to release the members of the court martial from the oath of secrecy, and passed through the lower house without opposition. But in the house of lords it was found destitute of a proper foundation, and having examined the members of the court martial, they declared that there was no occasion for passing such a bill, which therefore they almost unanimously rejected, and admiral Byng was executed March 14th.

Meanwhile hostilities went on very briskly between the Austrians and Prussians in Germany, and his Britannic majesty magnanimously rejected a neutrality which was offered him for the electorate of Hanover.

A general clamour of dissatisfaction had been raised last year by a series of disappointments and miscarriages which were imputed to want of intelligence, sagacity and vigour in the administration ; so that the ministers had found no other possible means to continue in office than to admit into a share of the administration, Mr. Pitt and Mr. Legge, the two most illustrious patriots of Great Britain at that time, and no less admired for their talents than esteemed for their integrity. The former was appointed secretary of state, the other chancellor of the exchequer ; the duke of Devonshire had succeeded the duke of Newcastle, and their friends were vested with other honourable, though subordinate offices. These alterations in the administration had taken place in the month of November last. But the amalgamation of the new with the old members of the cabinet proved so difficult a task and so troublesome to the king, that on the 5th of April, after a trial of about five months, he ordered Mr. Pitt to resign the seals of his office ; lord Mansfield was appointed *pro tempore* to succeed Mr. Legge in the office of chan-

cellor of the exchequer; and a new board of admiralty was appointed, at the head of which was placed the earl of Winchelsea. Mr. Pitt and Mr. Legge a few days after their resignation were presented with the freedom of the city of London, at a court of common council, when only one person held up his hand against the resolution.

The duke of Cumberland sets out for Harwich in his way to Hanover, to take the command of the army of observation.

Admiral Holbourne, with thirteen sail of the line and transports, sails from Cork for America May 7th. His majesty sends a message to the house of commons, desiring to be enabled to assist the East India Company in defraying the expense of a military force in the East Indies to be maintained by them in lieu of the English troops which had been by his orders withdrawn from those settlements. The importance of the war daily increasing, the king, by another message, represents the necessity of his being enabled to defray any extraordinary expenses to be incurred for the service of the year, to take all such measures as shall be necessary to defeat any enterprizes of his enemies, and as the exigency of affairs may require. Both these messages are complied with by the house of commons. They grant a million on credit to be applied as the exigences of the state may require; 50,000*l.* for the Americans, and 20,000*l.* for the East India Company.

The towns of Norwich, Exeter, Newcastle upon Tyne, and many other corporations, follow the example of the city of London, in presenting Mr. Pitt and Mr. Legge with their freedom; and the king is solicited to restore them to their former employments, by a great number of loyal addresses, as the only means to secure the honour of the nation, and to answer the public expectation of the speedy and

successful issue of a war hitherto attended with disgraces and misfortunes. Mr. Pitt is accordingly reinstated in the office of secretary of state June 29th; a new board of treasury is appointed with the duke of Newcastle at his head; Mr. Legge is restored to the office of chancellor of the exchequer. Lord Anson is appointed first lord of the admiralty, and Mr. Fox, paymaster of the forces. The late ministry continued in the other places of the administration, as however unpopular they might appear, still they possessed sufficient influence in the privy council, and credit in the house of commons, as to thwart every measure in which they did not partake. A salutary coalition, the necessity of which a recent experience had sufficiently demonstrated, took place between them and the new ministers. The king, on his part, took care equally to gratify in his favours the adherents of both parties; so that the utmost harmony prevailed for a long time among them, and produced such good effects as to exceed the most sanguine expectations.

His majesty puts an end to the session of parliament July 2nd.

A powerful fleet and ten regiments of foot are ordered to be got in readiness to put to sea on the shortest notice, for a secret expedition planned against Rochefort. The naval armament, consisting of eighteen ships of the line, besides frigates, fire ships, bomb ketches, and transports, is put under the command of sir Edward Hawke and rear-admiral Knowles. Sir John Mordaunt is appointed to the command of the land forces, consisting of between 6 and 7000 men. On this occasion, near 2000 seamen were pressed on the river Thames. The fleet, after various impediments, which obstructed the embarkation of the troops, got under sail on the 8th of September. They returned to St. Helens from Basque Road without having effected

or even attempted a landing; all that they had done, was their demolishing and blowing up a fort upon the little isle of Aix, situated in the mouth of the river Charente.

The failure of this enterprise raised a general ferment in England. The ministry and with them the national voice, exclaimed against the commanding officers, and the military men retorted the accusation by laying the blame on the projectors of the enterprize. His majesty ordered a board composed of three general officers, to inquire into the conduct of sir John Mordaunt; and the result of their report was, that he should be tried by a court martial. He was accordingly brought to his trial and unanimously acquitted.

The duke of Cumberland returns from Germany October 11th. Sir Edward Hawke and admiral Boscawen sail upon a new expedition.

The campaign in America was attended with misfortune and disgrace for the English arms. With an evident superiority over the enemy, an army of 20,000 regular troops, a great number of provincial forces, and twenty ships of the line, a large and valuable tract of country was abandoned, and the fort William Henry was surrendered to the French forces under the command of the marquis de Vaudreuil, who covered himself with glory by the bold and successful attempt of crossing, by swimming the river Chavoguen at the head of a body of Canadians, to cut off the communication of the English army with Fort George. As to the naval transactions, the British squadron appeared off Louisbourg on the 20th of August, but finding there the French admiral with a force greatly superior, admiral Holbourn made immediately the best of his way to Halifax. About the middle of September, being reinforced with four ships of the line, he again proceeded to Louisbourg, but found the

French admiral too prudent to hazard an unnecessary battle. The English squadron continued cruizing thereabouts, when they were overtaken by a dreadful storm; one of their ships was wrecked upon the rocks, and half her crew drowned. Eleven ships were dismasted, others threw their guns overboard, and all returned in a very shattered condition to England.

In the East Indies, admiral Watson and colonel Clive, advancing to Calcutta, at the latter end of December 1756, had taken in 24 hours Busbudgia, a place of great strength, though very ill defended. On the 1st of January, the admiral with two ships appeared before Calcutta, while colonel Clive invested the town on the other side. The attack was conducted with such vigour and impetuosity, that in less than two hours the place and fort were abandoned. They found in the fort 91 pieces of cannon, 4 mortars, abundance of ammunition, stores, and provision, with every requisite for sustaining an obstinate siege. A few days after, Hughley, a city of great trade, where the Nabob had his store-houses of salt, and vast granaries for the support of his army, was reduced with as little difficulty. The viceroy or Suba of Bengal, incensed at the almost instantaneous loss of all his conquests, rejected all overtures of accommodation proposed by the chiefs of the company, and assembled an army of 20,000 horse and 15,000 foot, fully resolved to expel the English out of his dominions. He advanced to Calcutta with this formidable force, and encamped about a mile from the town. Colonel Clive having obtained from the admiral a reinforcement of 600 men drafted from the different ships, he drew out his little army, marched in three columns to the enemy, and began the attack so vigorously, that the Suba retreated after a feeble resistance with the loss of 1000 men killed, wounded,

or taken prisoners, 500 horses, great number of draft bullocks, and four elephants. This victory, though not so decisive as could be wished, was sufficient to intimidate the viceroy into honourable and advantageous concessions to the company. He desired the negotiation might be renewed, and in a few days the treaty was concluded.

Colonel Clive being reinforced by 300 men from Bombay, began his march to Chandernagor, situated higher up the river than Calcutta, of considerable strength, and the most important settlement possessed by the French in the bay. Admiral Watson having removed several booms across the river, and vessels sunk in the channel to obstruct his passage, advanced with three men of war, and drew up in a line before the fort, which he battered for three hours, while colonel Clive making his approaches on the land side, played vigorously from the batteries he had raised. A flag of truce was soon waved over the walls, and the place surrendered by capitulation at the latter end of March. Though the artillery, stores, provisions of all sorts, and money found in that place were considerable, the principal advantage arose from the ruin of the chief settlement of the enemy on the Ganges, which could not but interfere with the English commerce in those parts.

At this juncture, the principal officers in the Viceroy's army and in his court, seeing his new preparations for war, and knowing his perfidy, were sensible that the peace of the country could never be restored unless either the English were expelled, or the Suba deposed, and as they were disgusted with his haughtiness, brutality, and oppression, they concerted a plan for divesting him of all his power. The conspiracy was conducted by Jaffier Ali Khan, his prime minister and commander, a nobleman of great influence and authority in the

province. He communicated his plan to the English Company, who plainly perceived at that time that the Suba, extremely dilatory in the execution of several articles of the treaty, sought to come to an open rupture as soon as his projects were ripe for execution. They knew likewise that French emissaries cajoled him with promises that he should soon be joined by such a body of their European troops, as would enable him to crush the power of the English. Towards the end of June, a treaty was concluded between Ali Khan and the English Company; in consequence of which, colonel Clive, having defeated the Suba's army, marched to Muxadavad, the capital of the province, where he was joined by Ali Khan and the mal-contents; there he solemnly proceeded to depose the Suba, and with the same ceremony substituted Ali Khan in his room. He was acknowledged by the people, as Suba or Viceroy of Bengal, Bahar, and Orixa, and granted the company all the privileges they could wish for.

On the 25th of July, the duke of Cumberland was defeated at Hastenbeck by the French army, much superior in number, and commanded by the mareschal d'Estres, who drove him towards Stade, into a sort of *cul de sac*, where the duke was unable by his situation to retire, or by his strength to advance.

On the mediation of the king of Denmark declaring himself to be the protector of Bremen and Verden, the duke of Cumberland signs at Closterseven a convention of neutrality for Hanover, with the duke de Richelieu, now in possession of that electorate. By this convention, concluded September 8th, the allied troops, composing the Hanoverian army to the number of 38,000 men, lay down their arms, and are sent back to their respective countries. On the 30th of the same month, the magis-

tracy of Hanover are ordered by the French to deliver in exact lists of the revenues, casualties, and other effects of the electorate. The duke of Cumberland returns from Germany.

An account is received, that on the 5th of November the king of Prussia, at the head of 20,000 men, had attacked at Rosbach the combined army, consisting of 40,000 French and 25,000 Imperialists, under the prince de Soubise, and the prince of Saxe-Hildburgs-Hausen, and had obtained a complete victory, killed nearly 3000 men on the field of battle, taken 8000 prisoners, 64 pieces of cannon, and a great number of standards and colours.

The king of Prussia had no sooner heard that a treaty of neutrality for the electorate of Hanover was in agitation, than he wrote an expostulatory letter to king George, complaining that after having at his instigation brought upon him all the force of Europe, and while he was going to fight the king of England's battles, his majesty could think of ingloriously leaving him at the mercy of his enemies. "Is it possible," said he, "that your majesty can have so little fortitude and constancy as to be dispirited by a small reverse of fortune? Are affairs so ruinous that they cannot be repaired? I hope your majesty will consider the step you have made me hazard, and remember that you are the sole cause of these misfortunes now impending over my head. I do not now repent of the treaty I have concluded with your majesty, but I expect you will adhere to it, and listen to no treaty in which I am not comprehended."

When his Prussian majesty heard of the convention of Closter-seven being concluded, he did not scruple to condemn it as a shameful capitulation, and renewed his complaints. The king of Great Britain declared in his answer, that the overtures made by his electoral ministers in Germany, should

have no influence on his majesty as king ; that he saw in the same light as before the pernicious effects of the union between the courts of Vienna and Versailles, and was determined to act in constant concert with the king of Prussia, that he should have no cause to complain of his indifference. That famous convention which was equally disagreeable to the courts of London and Versailles, attracted the attention of the privy council, where it was canvassed with great warmth and animosity, inasmuch as the duke of Cumberland complained that he was restrained by peremptory orders from the regency of Hanover, and his disgust was sufficiently evinced by his having resigned all his military employments immediately after his return to England. On the other hand, the regency were reported to have used recrimination in their defence.

The stipulations of the convention of Closter-seven were so vague as to be susceptible of many different interpretations. The French taking advantage of it, levied exorbitant contributions in the electorate, summoned the baillies on pain of military execution, to appear before the French commissary, and deliver into his hands the public revenue ; the houses, revenue, and corn belonging to the king of England in the city of Bremen were seized, as well as those magazines, which, by express agreement, were destined for the use of the electoral troops. The king having vainly remonstrated to the court of France against these infractions of the convention, his majesty resolved to have recourse to arms for the relief of his subjects, and conferred the command of his electoral army on prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, brother to the duke of that name. The duke of Richelieu was no sooner informed of it, than he wrote to the prince, that should the Hanoverian army commit any act of hostility, he would set fire to all palaces, houses, and gardens, sack all the towns and villages,

and subject the country to all the horrors of war and devastation. The laconic reply of prince Ferdinand was, that he would give the duke de Richelieu his answer in person at the head of his army.

The session of parliament opened on the 1st of December. The king in his speech expressed his concern that the large supplies they had already granted, did not produce all the good fruits they had reason to expect. He observed, that the late signal success in Germany had given a happy turn to affairs which it was incumbent on them to improve; that in such critical conjunctures the eyes of all Europe were upon them, and that he had so great a reliance on their wisdom as not to doubt of their perseverance. This speech was answered by very loyal addresses from both houses.

On the 28th of December died her royal highness the princess Caroline Elizabeth, third daughter of his majesty, aged forty-five years.

The amount of the national debt on January 11th, 1757, was 74,780,886*l.* 8*s.* 2½*d.*; and on the 11th of January 1758, 77,780,386*l.* 8*s.* 2½*d.*

Ann. 1758.

The house of commons voted for the service of this year 60,000 seamen, including 14,845 marines, and 53,777 men for the standing army, including 4000 invalids. The sums requisite for the maintenance of these forces, the subsidies to foreign powers, and all other necessary expenses, raised the whole amount of the supplies for this year to 10,486,457*l.*

In pursuance of a message from his majesty, informing the house that from the 28th of November last, he had ordered his electoral army to be put again in motion and act in concert with the king of Prussia; a sum of 100,000*l.* was unanimously voted January 21st, to be taken immediately out

of the unapplied supplies of last year. Accounts were soon after received that the French, pushed from post to post, retreated every where before the Hanoverians, and had been obliged to evacuate Bremen, Werden, &c.

The *Foudroyant* French man of war, commanded by the famous admiral Duquesne, and the Orpheus of 64 guns, being part of a French squadron sent to reinforce M. de la Clue, who was blocked up in the bay of Cadiz, are taken by admiral Osborne's squadron, after an engagement that lasted five hours. Embden, belonging to the king of Prussia, and fallen into the hands of the French, is suddenly retrieved March the 20th, by commodore Holmes.

On the 11th of April, a convention between his majesty and the king of Prussia is signed at London, enacting that his Britannic majesty shall pay the sum of 670,000*l.* to the king of Prussia, who shall employ it in augmenting and keeping up his forces for the interest of the common cause; and that neither of the contracting powers shall conclude any peace, make any truce, or enter into any treaty of neutrality without the participation of the other.

Count d'Aché, the French admiral, is beat by admiral Pococke in the East Indies, April 29th.

A small squadron, composed of one ship of 64 guns, one of 50, and a frigate of 24, under the command of captain Marsh, having on board 200 marines and a detachment of artillery, take possession of Senegal, May 1st, where they find 232 French officers and soldiers, 92 pieces of cannon, with treasure, slaves, and merchandize to a considerable value, and in the harbour, 16 vessels, most of them richly laden. On the 20th of the same month, commodore Keppel's squadron brings in four French ships, part of seventeen which had sailed from Bourdeaux with provisions and stores for Canada.

The French continue to retire before prince Ferdinand, who, by the most masterly conduct defeats them at Crevelt June 23rd, where 7000 of their best troops are killed, wounded or taken prisoners. He soon after makes himself master of Dusseldorf and other important passes upon the Rhine.

The forts of Goudelour, St. David, and Divicoté in the East Indies, are taken by the French under the command of count Lally, June 2nd. On the same day, a small squadron under commodore Howe, with sixteen battalions and nine troops of light horse on board, commanded by the duke of Marlborough, sail from Portsmouth. The duke and the British troops land at Cancalle, in Cancalle Bay; march towards St. Malo, but finding themselves too weak to attack the town, they burn about 100 sail of shipping that lay under the walls of the town, and several magazines filled with naval stores. They re-embark at Cancalle, and attempt a landing at Cherbourg; but the army being sickly by its long confinement on board the ships, and provisions falling short, the fleet returns to England.

An English army of about 14,000 men, was at this time before Louisbourg in the island of Cape Breton. Admiral Boscawen commanded the fleet, consisting of 151 ships, and general Amherst the land troops; they had sailed from Halifax. Their landing was effected with great difficulty. At last the siege was regularly formed, and carried on with great intrepidity. The young general Wolfe greatly distinguished himself on this occasion. The town surrendered on the 27th of June. The garrison, irregulars, and seamen, amounting to 5637, were made prisoners of war.

On the 20th of June the king being indisposed, the session was closed by the lords commissioners, who, in their speech, expressed his majesty's deep

sense of their loyalty and good affection demonstrated in their late proceedings, and by the ample supplies which they had so freely and unanimously voted.

The salaries of the judges of England are augmented, and the sum of 11,430*l.* is appropriated by the commons to be given to his majesty for that purpose.

General Abercrombie, commander-in-chief of the British forces in America, embarks upon Lake George, July 5th, with about 16,000 troops, regulars and provincials, and a large artillery; having effected a landing three days after, they appear before Ticonderago, and without waiting for their heavy artillery, they attack the French entrenchments with great intrepidity; the attempt, however, is found impracticable, and after losing about 2000 men, they are obliged to retreat next day to their old camp to the southward of Lake George.

The attempts upon the coast of France, though interrupted by tempestuous weather, were not as yet laid aside. Troops were assembling in the Isle of Wight for a new expedition, to be headed by the duke of Marlborough and lord George Sackville; the command of the fleet and naval operations devolved on lieutenant-general Bligh, an old experienced officer of great reputation. Prince Edward, afterwards created duke of York, the second son of the late prince of Wales, embarked as a volunteer with commodore Howe, in order to learn the rudiments of the sea service. The English army, consisting of 6000 men, having landed without any material loss on the coast of Normandy, marched to Cherbourg, which they entered without opposition; destroyed the basin and fortifications made at an immense expense, burned all the vessels in the harbour, took hostages to secure the payment of the contributions, and re-embarked after remaining

ten days unmolested in France. The fleet set sail for the coast of England, having secured on board twenty pieces of brass cannon, and anchored in the road of Weymouth.

Encouraged by this success, the fleet sailed again, and steering to the coast of France, came to anchor in the bay of St. Lunaire, two leagues to the westward of St. Malo; as the coast was very rocky, they moved up to the bay of St. Cast, still further to the westward. Thence they marched to the village of Matignon, skirmishing all the way with the enemy upon their flanks. In the mean time the duke d'Aiguillon having got together twelve battalions and six squadrons of regular troops with two of militia, advanced against the English, who were now retreating with all expedition towards St. Cast in order to re-embark. But before the embarkation could be totally effected, the French had time to attack the rear division of the English, consisting of all the grenadiers of the army and the first regiment of the guards, who fought with great vigour, and were seconded by a fire of great and small arms from the fleet. But soon after they saw themselves in danger of being surrounded and cut to pieces; their officers dropped on every side, and all means of retreat were now intercepted. In this fatal dilemma their spirits failed, they were seized with a panic, they faltered, they broke, and in less than five minutes after the engagement began, they fled in the utmost confusion, pursued by the enemy, who no sooner saw them give way, than they fell in among them with their bayonets fixed, and made a great carnage. Many swam towards the boats, but by far the greater number were butchered or drowned. A small body, however, retired on a rock, where they made a stand until they had exhausted their ammunition, and then surrendered at discretion. About 1000 chosen men of the English

army were killed or taken prisoners on this occasion.

Advices were received at this time, that an attempt as unsuccessful had been made by the English on the island of Goree, near the river Senegal; but on the 29th of December following, commodore Keppel, with the assistance of some troops commanded by lieutenant-colonel Worge, made himself master of the island and its forts; the garrison surrendered at discretion to his majesty's squadron.

A loan of 200,000*l.* to his majesty as elector of Hanover, was negociated in London on the 1st of August, and the subscription was immediately filled up at the bank.

About this time, count de Chevert, one of the best French generals in Germany, endeavouring to prevent the junction of the English troops with the Hanoverians, was defeated at Meer by baron Imhoff, the Hanoverian general, who immediately effected his junction with prince Ferdinand.

Nearly 10,000 manufacturers in and about Manchester combine together to raise the price of their wages by force, and commit many disorders. Bills of indictment are admitted against seventeen of the rioters.

General Abercrombie, after his repulse at Ticonderago, had dispatched about 3000 provincials under colonel Bradstreet, against the Fort Fronteniac, standing at the conflux of the Lake Ontario with the River St. Lawrence, which in some manner it commanded. It was taken and demolished by the English without any loss, August 30. They found there vast magazines of provisions, and took nine armed sloops, which were burnt. The taking of Fort Duquesne by brigadier Forbes terminated the campaign in America. This place, with its masters, has changed its name, and is called Pittsburg, in honour to the able minister, whose wisdom, sagacity,

and energy, had introduced such important improvements in the plan and conduct of the war.

On the 23d of November, the king being still indisposed, the session was opened by commission. The lord keeper, in his speech, recapitulated all the agreeable occurrences of the year, and recommended to both houses vigorously to support the king of Prussia and the rest of his majesty's allies. The parliament was so satisfied with the present administration that the address of thanks was unanimously voted in both houses, congratulating his majesty on the success of his arms, and promising to support his measures and allies with steadiness and alacrity. In consequence of these assurances, a new treaty was concluded with the king of Prussia, consisting of the same stipulations as the last, and particularly that of a subsidy of 670,000*l*.

In the course of this year, when a bloody war raged in the four quarters of the globe, Great Britain, whose interests and grievances were the primary and principal causes of this general commotion, enjoyed the tranquillity of a profound peace; and notwithstanding the heavy taxes required by the circumstances, individual acts of benevolent munificence never were more conspicuous. Mr. Henry Raine, a private gentleman of Middlesex, had in his lifetime built and endowed an hospital for the maintenance of forty poor maidens, and bequeathed a certain sum to accumulate at interest, until the yearly produce should amount to 210*l*. to be given in marriage portions to two of the maidens educated in his hospital, who should be the best recommended for piety and industry by the masters or mistresses whom they had served. The sum destined for this laudable purpose was completed this year, when the trustees summoned by public advertisement the maidens educated in the hospital, to appear on a certain day with proper certificates, that

six of the most deserving might be selected to draw lots for the prize, on condition of marrying men of unblemished character, members of the church of England, and approved by the trustees.

Another charitable and excellent institution was established at this period by the voluntary contributions of individuals, chiefly citizens of London, to provide a comfortable asylum for female penitents, to which they might fly for shelter from the receptacles of vice, the miseries of life, and the scorn of mankind. This admirable plan being formed, was executed by means of a voluntary subscription, and the house opened in St. George's fields, under the name of the Magdalen-hospital, in the month of August, when fifty petitions were presented by penitent prostitutes soliciting admittance. Another asylum was also established at the same time, and by the same means, on the Surry side of Westminster bridge, for the reception and education of female orphans and children abandoned by their parents.

In the month of April, the temporary wooden bridge over the Thames, built for the convenience of the public while the workmen were employed in widening and repairing London bridge, was set on fire in the night, and continued burning till its ruins fell into the river. Even after a new temporary bridge was erected, another attempt was made to reduce it to ashes, but happily miscarried, and a guard was appointed to prevent the recurrence of such wicked outrage, in the perpetration of which no individual could have the least interest except the London watermen; but as the strictest inquiries produced no discoveries against any of them, the deed could not be imputed but to some of those unfortunate beings, who, degraded by insanity from the dignity of men, can no longer enjoy the noblest of his privileges, liberty, without

endangering the public security, and even the life of their fellow-creatures. Let then those innoxious, but very dangerous offenders, receive either from national or individual benevolence, all kind of assistance appropriated to their situation; but at the same time let the police watch over them with an unremitted vigilance, as the least negligence or misapplied lenity might be attended with the most fatal consequences. Four months after, an attempt was made to set fire to his majesty's storehouses at Deptford, which were filled at that time with cordage and all kinds of naval stores; but the conflagration was fortunately stopped in time, so as to prevent any damage. This offence, the author of which was never found, discovered much more malice than insanity, and was probably committed by some secret enemy, or foreign emissary.

Ann. 1759.

The national debt amounted, on the 15th of January, to 82,776,589*l.* 8*s.* 2½*d.*

The commons voted for the sea service of the present year 60,000 men, including 14,846 marines, and for the land forces 52,553 effective men, besides the auxiliaries of Hanover, Hesse, Brunswick, &c. to the number of 57,012 men, and five battalions on the Irish establishment actually employed in Africa and America. The sums granted for the maintenance of these forces, the subsidies, and all other expenses of the year, raised the total amount of the supply to 12,749,860*l.*

Princess Anne, eldest daughter to his Britannic majesty, and princess of Orange, dies January 12.

Accounts are received March 7, that general Hobson and commodore Moore had made an unsuccessful attempt upon Martinico; that from thence they had proceeded to Guadaloupe, and reduced

the town of Basseterre, its capital, but that the governor and principal inhabitants had retired to the mountains. In the same month two French frigates, the *Diana*, of 40 guns, and *la Mignonne*, of 20 guns, are taken by his majesty's ships the *Southampton*, the *Melampus*, and the *Eolus*.

The campaign at this same time was carried on very briskly in Germany, but without any remarkable advantage on either side.

In the beginning of the session a committee being appointed to resume the inquiry respecting the regulation of weights and measures, and the affair being carefully investigated, many resolutions were agreed on, particularly, that the ell was to contain one yard and one quarter; the pole or perch, five such yards and a half in length; the furlong, 220; and the mile, 1760: that the superficial perch should contain 30 square yards and a quarter; the rood, 1210; and the acre, 4840: that the quart ought to contain 70 cubical inches and one half; the pint, 35 and a quarter; the peck, 564; and the bushel, 2256.

Two French men of war, the *Count de St. Florentin*, of 64 guns, and the *Duc de Chartres*, of 60; besides some privateers, are taken by the English.

On two messages from the king 200,000*l.* was granted to the provinces of North America, for the expenses of troops raised by them, and 20,000*l.* to the East-India Company, for defending their settlements. Both these sums, as well as one million granted on another message of his majesty, to defray any extra expense of the war, are included in the total amount of the supply above mentioned.

The thanks of the house of commons are voted to admiral Boscawen and major-general Amherst, for their services to their king and country in North America, and to admiral Osborne, for the success of his cruise in the Mediterranean. Accounts are

received from general Barrington, importing, that on the 2d of May, Guadaloupe had surrendered to his majesty's troops, and that on the 6th the island of Marigalante, Grenada, and St. Martin, had followed the example.

The session was closed by commission on the 2d day of June. The commissioners, in their speech, gave the most satisfactory account of all the measures that had been taken to bring the war to an happy and honourable conclusion. The people; animated by the pride of the late success, and by the prospect of new triumphs, which never fails to reconcile them to all difficulties, discovered their ready acquiescence to the additional burdens they had to bear, by the remarkable eagerness with which they embarked in the subscription towards the annuities and lottery, planned by the legislature to raise 6,600,000*l*. Their vigorous assistance towards manning the navy, recruiting the army, and levying additional forces, was no less conspicuous. Considerable bounties were offered by cities, corporations, and even by individuals, to such persons as should engage in his majesty's service. The example was set by the metropolis, who, besides subscribing a considerable sum for that purpose, resolved, as a further encouragement to volunteers, that every person so entering should be entitled to the freedom of the city, at the expiration of three years, or sooner, if the war should be brought to a conclusion.

Three days before the close of the session a message from the king acquainted both houses, of his majesty having received repeated intelligence of the actual preparations making in the French ports to invade Great Britain, and of the imminent danger of such invasion being attempted. The object of the message was, that his majesty might if he should think proper, cause the militia, or such part thereof as

should be necessary, to be drawn out and embodied, to march as occasion should require; a measure which was immediately and unanimously complied with by the two houses.

The preparations for the intended invasion of Great Britain being chiefly made at Havre de Grace, where great numbers of flat bottomed boats were collecting for that purpose; rear-admiral Rodney, with a small squadron of ships and bomb-ketches, was dispatched in the beginning of July, to overawe that part of the French coast. He accordingly anchored in the road of Havre, and during fifty-two hours, without interruption, bombarded the town and the harbour; the town was set on fire in several places and burned with great fury; some of the boats were overturned and a few reduced to ashes; the inhabitants were thrown into the utmost consternation. However, the damage done to the enemy was far from making amends for the expense of the armament, and the loss of 1900 shells and 1100 carcasses, which were expended in the expedition.

The fort Niagara, one of the most important the French had in North America, is taken in the month of July by general sir William Johnson, and those of Crown Point and Ticonderago by general Amherst. But the most signal advantage obtained over the French in the course of this month was the victory of Minden, in the honour of which the English, making a part of prince Ferdinand's army, had the greater share. The consequences of it would have been much more fatal to the French, had the whole British, and several brigades of the German cavalry, who formed the right wing of the allies, advanced according to the prince's orders, and charged the enemy at the instant of their retreat; but either these orders were not sufficiently precise, or were not well understood by lord George Sackville, who commanded the right wing; and while he was wait-

ing for an explanation the critical minute passed away; the British cavalry lost their share in the glory of the action, and the French retreated in some order, owing to the judicious efforts of the duke de Broglie, and the advantages which the possession of Minden gave them. The loss of the French in this action amounted to about 7000 men killed, wounded, or taken prisoners; the loss of the allies did not exceed 2000, among whom 1200 of the killed and wounded were English. Lord George Sackville, on his return to England, was ordered by his majesty to deliver up all the places he held under the government.

The French would have found a full compensation for these disasters in the intended invasion of Great Britain, if mareschal de Bellisle's plan had been as successful in its execution, as it appeared formidable and skilfully contrived. Forty battalions were assembled on the coast of Brittany under the command of the duke d'Aiguillon, to be timely embarked at Vannes, and carried over under the protection of twenty-one ships of the line, commanded by the mareschal de Conflans, and ready to sail from Brest. Another army, commanded by M. de Chevert, was encamped at Dunkirk, for the same destination, to be conveyed on flat bottomed boats, properly protected by some men of war. Other embarkations were preparing for the same purpose at Rochefort, L'Orient, Havre de Grace, and some other ports of the coast of Normandy. A squadron at Toulon, consisting of twelve ships of the line and three frigates, under the command of M. de la Clue, was ordered to join the Brest fleet, while mareschal de Conflans was waiting only for the arrival of that squadron finally to determine the day for the invasion. In the mean time M. de Flobert was embarked at Dunkirk with about 800 men, in the small squadron of captain Thurot, destined to reconnoitre the

northern coast of Ireland, and by means of some malcontents in that part of the country, endeavour to form some parties to protect the landing of the French troops. But M. de la Clue was at that time closely blockaded in the harbour of Toulon by an English squadron consisting of fourteen sail of the line, two frigates, and as many fireships, under the command of the gallant admiral Boscawen, who vainly displayed the British flag in sight of Toulon, by way of defiance to the French fleet. At last, being tired with his long inactivity, he ordered three of his ships to advance and burn two French men of war that lay close to the mouth of the harbour. They accordingly approached with great intrepidity, but met with a very warm reception from batteries which they had not before perceived. The wind subsiding into a calm they sustained considerable damage, and were towed off with great difficulty, in so shattered a condition that the admiral, raised the blockade to have them refitted, and returned to Gibraltar. M. de la Clue seized this opportunity of sailing, in hopes of passing the Straits unobserved. But the English admiral had detached his two frigates to cruise and keep a good look-out, that they might give timely notice in case the enemy should approach. On the 17th of August one of the frigates made a signal, at eight in the evening, that fourteen sail appeared on the Barbary coast. Admiral Boscawen immediately heaved up his anchors and went to sea. At day-light he descried only seven large ships lying to. This was the greater part of the French squadron commanded by M. de la Clue, from whom five of his large ships and three frigates had separated in the night. Admiral Boscawen immediately attacked them, took the *Téméraire*, of 74 guns, the *Redoubtable*, of 64, and the *Modeste*; two were burnt on the coast of Largos. The scattered remains of this fleet with difficulty

took refuge into the harbour of Cadiz. This victorious admiral arrived with his squadron at Portsmouth on the 15th of September.

While the British arms, both by sea and land, were gathering new laurels in Europe, the campaign went on with no less success than activity in North America. The reduction of the forts at Niagara, and upon the Lake Champlain, was only an accessary operation to the decisive stroke intended against Quebec, the capital of Canada. In this expedition the fleet was under admiral Saunders and admiral Holmes, and the land forces, consisting of 7000 men, were under the command of general Wolfe, who was to be joined by general Amherst with his detachment. The whole embarkation arrived in the latter end of June at the isle of Orleans, which extends quite up to the basin of Quebec, capable of containing 100 ships of the line. The French army, superior in number to the besiegers, under a very able and hitherto fortunate commander, M. de Montcalm, was posted upon what was deemed the only accessible side of Quebec, all along from the river St. Charles to that of Montmorenci, entrenched at every attackable spot, having in front the river and a considerable sand-bank, which prevented the approach of any large vessels, and thick impenetrable woods on their rear. When Wolfe saw the position of the troops, the situation of the town, and the impossibility of attempting an assault with any probability of success, he began to despair, as he had no other chance than to entice or force by any means to an engagement an enemy stronger than him, and even this appeared the more difficult, as M. de Montcalm, wisely relying on the natural strength of the town, and of his own position, resolved to risk nothing, notwithstanding his superiority in number to the English. However, Wolfe, whose firm resolution was to leave nothing unat-

tempted, began to secure the points of the island where battering cannon and mortars were to be erected, which was executed with little difficulty. In the mean time the two admirals were stationed in the river so as to divert the enemy's attention, and prevent all their attempts against the batteries, that played incessantly against the town. After many skilful but fruitless manœuvres to allure the enemy out of their position, the general fell violently ill, consumed by care, watching, and fatigue, to which his delicate constitution was quite unequal. As soon as he had a little recovered, he despatched an express to England with an account of his proceedings, written in a style of despondency. He resolved, however, to continue the campaign to the last possible moment, and by his perseverance he succeeded at last in drawing the French to a general action, September 13. But just in the moment when the fortune of the field began to declare itself in his favour, general Wolfe fell, wounded in the head; general Monkton, the next to him in command, fell immediately after, and both were conveyed out of the line. Wolfe, apprehending that accident might dishearten his troops, came again, his wound wrapped up in his handkerchief, and encouraged his men to advance; soon after he received another ball in his belly; this also he dissembled, and exerted himself as before, when he received a third in his breast, under which he at last sunk, and was carried behind the ranks. As he lay struggling with the anguish and weakness of three grievous wounds, he seemed only solicitous about the fortune of the battle, and begged one of the officers who attended him to raise him up to view the field; but as he found that the approach of death had dimmed his sight, he desired him to give him an account of what he saw. The officer answered that the enemy seemed broken. A few minutes after, the general

repeated his question with much anxiety, when he was told that the enemy was totally routed. "Then," said he, "I am satisfied," and immediately expired. General Montcalm, the worthy rival of Wolfe, little survived the English hero, and only to witness the rout of his own army, which he vainly endeavoured to rally. His dying words were, however, for renewing the attack; such was also the opinion of the marquis de Vaudreuil; but the council of war resolved to retreat. Five days after the action, the communication between the town and the French army being cut off, and the English troops and fleet preparing vigorously for a siege, the city of Quebec was surrendered upon terms of honour to the garrison, and advantage to the inhabitants, who were maintained in the possession of their civil rights, and the free exercise of their religion.

The news of this important victory arrived in England in the midst of the general gloom produced by the desponding letter of general Wolfe, which had been received only two days before. The effect of these joyful tidings coming immediately on such a dejection, and then the mixture of grief and admiration excited by the glorious death of the general, was as singular as affecting. But whilst the world admired general Wolfe as one of the most accomplished officers, his unhappy mother was an object marked out for pity by great and peculiar distress. Within a few months she had lost her husband, and she had now to lament the loss of the most amiable and dutiful son, her only child, the honour and support of her old age. The public joy could not but pierce her tender maternal heart, and increase her affliction. In this circumstance the populace of the village where she lived unanimously agreed to admit no illuminations or firings, or any other sign of rejoicing whatsoever, near her house, lest they should seem, by an ill-timed triumph, to

insult over her grief ; an instance of exquisite sensibility and genuine sympathy, which deserves the more to be recorded as, whoever knows the people, knows that they made no small sacrifice on this occasion.

The invasion projected by France, and retarded by the disasters that befel the Toulon fleet, was by no means set aside. The transports and ships of war were assembled at Brest and Rochefort, having on board a train of artillery, with saddles and other accoutrements for cavalry, to be mounted in Ireland; and a body of French troops, including part of the Irish brigade, was kept in readiness to embark. But the execution of this scheme was prevented by the vigilance of sir Edward Hawke, who blocked up the harbour of Brest with a fleet of twenty-three first-rate ships, while another squadron of smaller ships and frigates, under the command of captain Duff, continued to cruise along the French coast, from L'Orient to the point of St. Gilles, in Poitou. At length, however, in the middle of November, a violent storm having forced sir Edward Hawke to quit his station off Brest, he came with twenty-eight sail of men of war to anchor in Torbay. The French fleet, availing itself of his absence, put to sea immediately, and went in pursuit of captain Duff's squadron. Admiral Hawke being timely informed of it put again to sea, and as he concluded that the first rendezvous of the enemy would be at Quiberon, he directed his course for that bay on the 21st of November. About eight o'clock in the morning the headmost ship discovered the French fleet bearing to the northward, between the island of Belleisle and the main land. He ordered the ships nearest the enemy immediately to chase, and by engaging them to give time for the rest of the fleet to come up. At half an hour after two the action began with great fury in the neighbourhood of Belleisle.

In two hours one of the French ships struck her colours, and two others foundered in consequence of the high sea that entered their lower deck-ports, and filled them with water. Before the night came on the French fleet was much dispersed; but in the eagerness of the pursuit two of the English ships ran upon a sand-bank, and were lost. The enemy fled to their own coast. Seven of their ships threw all their guns overboard, and escaped into the river Vilaine, about as many more got out to sea and made for other ports. A violent storm blew all night long. Next morning it was found that the French admiral had ran on shore his ship and another, the first was set on fire by the French the other by the English. Thus concluded this remarkable action, in which the French had four first-rate ships destroyed, one taken, and the whole of their fleet shattered, disarmed, and dispersed; and thus the long-threatened invasion dwindled into disasters and disgrace.

While the British arms obtained these glorious advantages in Europe and America, the East-Indies, which had been hitherto the theatre of operations carried on with various, and generally indecisive success, now began to exhibit honourable victories and an increasing prosperity. The French had in those seas eleven strong ships of the line, under M. d'Aché, while the British squadron under admiral Pococke, did not exceed nine. However, in three different engagements, April 29, 1758, August 3, and September 10, 1759, M. d'Aché, far from obtaining any advantage, was prevented from co-operating with the land forces for the rest of the campaign. The French land forces were still more superior; count de Lally, an officer of distinguished bravery, and of greater rank than had been usually sent on that service, commanded a body of 2000 Europeans, a great army in a country where the

name of an European is in itself a strength. Their landing on the Indian shore was attended by a signal success; they took the fort and the city of St. David's. But the sanguine expectations raised by this conquest were completely frustrated in the course of this year. General Lally was compelled to give up his attack on Tanjaour, and to raise the siege of Madras after forty days of open trenches, abandoning forty pieces of cannon. Colonel Forde defeated the marquis de Conflans near Colapoor, and took Masulipatam. Captain Knox took Rajamundri, and the French factory at Narsipore. Colonel Coote took Wandewash, defeated general Lally, and conquered the province of Arcot.

Though these numerous and important successes were principally due to the gallantry and spirited conduct of the English troops, it is but just to acknowledge, that the final ruin of the French affairs and settlements in the East-Indies, was in a great measure the consequence of the misunderstandings, jealousies, and violent dissensions which existed between count Lally, M. d'Aché, the council, and governor of Pondichery, of the villany of the contractors, and of all those who turn war into a low profit, and particularly of the unaccountable retreat of the whole French fleet to the island of Mauritius, when Pondichery, and the whole coast of Coromandel was so much in need of naval assistance.

Such was the prosperous situation of affairs when the session of parliament was opened by commission, November 14. This day likewise the prince of Wales took his seat in the house of peers. The lord keeper did not fail to observe in his speech, that in no preceding year since Great Britain was a nation, had she been favoured with so many successes both by sea and land, and in every quarter of the globe; nor had her officers ever done more honour to their country by their skill and bravery. Both houses in

their respective addresses seemed to vie with each other in expressions of joy and attachment; they approved of all the operations of government with a degree of enthusiasm unknown to any former administration, and professed their utmost readiness to concur in the effectual support of such further measures as his majesty, in his great wisdom, should judge necessary or expedient for carrying on the war with vigour. Immediately after the presentation of their address, the commons voted for the service of the ensuing year 70,000 seamen, including 18,355 marines, 57,294 men for the land forces, the same sums as last year for the auxiliary troops, the subsidies, and all other usual expenses; so that, on the whole, and including one million upon account, to enable his majesty to defray the extraordinary expenses of the war, the sum total granted in this session, amounted to 15,852,706*l*.

A great number of congratulatory addresses came to his majesty from all parts of the united kingdoms. A monument was voted by the house of commons for the late general Wolfe, in Westminster Abbey.

A loan of eight millions is agreed to by parliament, December 17, for which an interest of four per cent. is allowed for a certain number of years, and a lottery ticket, value 3*l*. as a gratuity for every 100*l*. so borrowed. The subscription for this sum is immediately filled. A subscription for clothing the French prisoners in England meets with great success (December 12), as well as another for the relief of the widows and orphans of the men in the British infantry, who behaved and fell so gloriously at Minden and Quebec.

From the beginning of the present war twenty-seven French ships of the line and thirty-one frigates, were taken or destroyed, two ships and four frigates lost, making in the whole fifty-eight taken

or destroyed, and six lost. The English lost seven men of war and five frigates.

Ann. 1760.

The success of the last campaign had placed the kings of Great Britain and Prussia in the most favourable situation to propose peace; they desired accordingly that the opposite powers should concur with them in nominating some place for a congress; expecting that, should their proposals be accepted, they must naturally take the lead in the negotiation. But for these very reasons the allies unanimously rejected these offers. France having been worsted in every quarter, could not look for any favourable terms, until her present situation was greatly improved. Her naval power was now too much reduced to allow her to cope with the numerous English squadrons, but she had still the resource of abandoning all attempts by sea, and consequently in North America and both the Indies, to exert all her power against Prussia and Hanover. The strength and perseverance of the two empresses, the ruined condition of the king of Prussia, the enormous expense of the German war to England, which must gradually exhaust the resources of her credit, and increase in the same proportion the impatience of the nation for peace, were as many motives for the cabinets of Versailles and Vienna not to hearken to any terms until, by acquiring superiority, or at least equality, they might be assured of procuring such as were not very disadvantageous or humiliating. Such was the situation of Europe at the close of the last campaign, and all thoughts of peace being entirely removed, the war was prosecuted with the utmost vigour.

In America, ten battalions of English troops, two companies of the artillery, one of American wood

rangers, in all about 7000 men, formed the garrison left in Quebec to command Canada during the winter, and facilitate the entire reduction of that province in the ensuing campaign. They were under orders of general Murray. Mr. de Vaudreuil, the French commander, plainly saw that the only remaining chance for preserving Canada, was to retake Quebec; he prepared accordingly to make this attempt, and his forces were not unequal to it. They consisted of ten battalions of regular troops, amounting to about 5000 men, 6000 of the experienced militia of Canada, and nearly 300 savages. With this force collected at Montreal, Mr. de Vaudreuil took the field, April 17th, and arrived in ten days march at the heights of Abraham, three miles from Quebec. General Murray depending on the tried goodness of his troops, and on his own courage to animate them, resolved to march out of the city, and by trying the fortune of the field, avoid the tedious hardships of a siege, in a place, which, attacked on that side, seemed to him scarcely tenable. The English army obtained at first a decided advantage over the enemy's vanguard, but the pursuit brought them full on the main army of the French, which advanced with great rapidity in two columns to support their broken vanguard, and having, by a very hot and well directed fire, stopped the English army, put it in the greatest danger not only of a defeat, but of being surrounded, and of having its retreat to Quebec intercepted.

Nothing now could be thought of but as speedy a retreat as possible, and when they reached Quebec, they had lost the third part of the army killed or wounded, and had been obliged to leave their cannon. The French did not lose a moment's time to improve their victory, and open the trenches before the town the very night of the battle, as the only remaining chance for the preservation of Canada.

was their re-taking Quebec before a British squadron could arrive. But their artillery was so miserable, that on the 11th of May, they had hardly brought two batteries to play upon the fortifications, while the English had 132 pieces of cannon placed on the ramparts. A few days after, the British squadron was in the river, and immediately took, dispersed, or destroyed all the French vessels of any kind. The French army raised the siege of Quebec in the utmost hurry, leaving behind all their artillery and a great part of their ammunition and baggage. No doubt could now remain about the reduction of Canada, by the united efforts of three English armies, who, by different routs, were moving to attack those parts of it which still remained to France. Mr. de Vaudreuil receiving no reinforcements, the conquest of the whole province was completed after the most obstinate and honourable resistance, on the 8th of September, by the surrender of the garrison as prisoners of war, and of the inhabitants as subjects to the king of Great Britain.

In the East Indies, general Lally, knowing the importance of recovering Wandewash, lately taken by colonel Coote, laid siege before the place and pushed it forward with the utmost vigour. But the colonel marching with the same diligence, arrived at the time when the French had made a practicable breach, and attacked them immediately. The engagement was long and obstinate, till at length the French gave way. They abandoned their camp, their cannon, with all the implements for the siege. They left 1000 men killed or wounded on the field of battle. Among the prisoners were brigadier-general Bussy, one quarter-master-general, one lieutenant-colonel, and eleven inferior officers. Chilliput was taken a few days after, while general Lally with his broken troops retreat-

ed to Pondichery, which was soon after besieged by the English.

Mr. Lyttleton, governor of South Carolina, had marched against the Cherokee Indians, who had been guilty of many inhumanities against the English. His army did not exceed 1100 men. As these savages had made no preparations for his reception, they saw no other means to prevent their towns being delivered to fire and sword, than to consent to such a treaty of peace as the governor was pleased to dictate. They gave up the persons guilty of the most flagrant murders, and put into his hands twenty-two hostages as a security for their adherence to the treaty. But as soon as the army was removed, they broke out into their former ravages, blocked up Fort Loudon, and made some attempts against Fort Edward. General Amherst detached colonel Montgomery with a strong body of troops to oppose them. He burned Estatoe the capital of the lower Cherokees, and then proceeded to the same execution on all the towns and villages of that district. This universal destruction being completed, colonel Montgomery passed on to the middle Cherokees, but as he marched through a ground favourable to the Indian method of fighting, his army was suddenly attacked on all sides by these barbarians. The fight was long and well disputed, till at last the Indians fled. Colonel Montgomery, though victorious, was obliged to retreat on account of his wounded, for whom he had no place of safety, and in conformity to the orders of general Amherst, which were, that as soon as he had chastised the enemy, he should re-join the grand army at New York with the troops under his command. Carolina, and the neighbouring colonies were again exposed to the fury of a savage enemy. The small garrison of Fort Loudon was reduced to the necessity of surrendering up on ho-

nourable conditions, but in their march, the enemy butchered all the officers but one, killed several of the private soldiers, and carried the rest into a horrible captivity. These accounts could not but damp the joy which was felt on the conquest of Canada. But the subject which engrossed the most the conversations and the indignation of the public at that time, was the case of lord George Sackville. His conduct at the battle of Minden, was represented as infamous in every particular ; and an abhorrence of that nobleman as a coward and a traitor, became the universal passion.

Lord George, impatient of the imputation under which his character laboured, insisted upon the privilege of a legal trial; and the judges having given it as their opinion, that he might be tried by a court martial, though he had resigned his command, a court of general officers was appointed to enquire into his conduct. The judge-advocate gave him to understand that he was charged with having disobeyed the orders of prince Ferdinand at the battle of Minden. His defence seemed the more plausible, that he proved by undeniable evidence, that these orders brought to him by three different persons in the space of a few minutes were contradictory, which obliged him, before obeying any of them, to apply for an explanation to the prince himself, who was at a small distance. Nevertheless, the court-martial found him guilty of the charge, and rendered incapable of ever serving his majesty again in a military capacity. The sentence was confirmed by the king, who, moreover, signified his pleasure that it should be given out in public orders, not only in Britain, but in every place where any English troops happened to be. To complete the disgrace of this unfortunate general, his name was ordered to be struck out of the list of privy counsellors.

The parliament was prorogued by commission May 22nd, when the lord keeper in his speech ac-

quainted both houses, that the most effectual care had been taken to augment the combined army in Germany, and at the same time to keep up such a force at home as might frustrate any attempts of the enemy; and that his majesty had at the same time disposed his squadrons in such a manner as might best conduce to the defence of his dominions both in Europe and America, to the preserving and pursuing his conquests, as well as to the protection of the trade of his subjects.

A remarkable trial took place in the course of this summer against Lawrence, earl of Ferrers, a man of a violent spirit who had committed several outrages, and given manifold proofs of insanity. His deportment to his lady was so brutal, that a separation was effected by act of parliament. His nearest relations had deliberated upon the expediency of taking out a commission of lunacy against him, and were prevented by no other reason than their apprehension of being convicted of *scandalum magnatum*, should the jury find his lordship *compos mentis*; a circumstance which in all probability would have happened, inasmuch as the earl's madness did not appear in his conversation but in his conduct. It entered at last into his disordered mind, that his own relations had conspired against him, and that one Mr. Johnson, who had, during the best part of his life, been employed in the family, and was now appointed receiver of the estates at the earl's own request, was one of their accomplices, and that there was a collusion between them. Fired with these suppositions he first expressed his resentment by giving Johnson notice to quit the farm which he possessed on the estate; but finding the trustees had confirmed the lease, he gratified his revenge by assassination. The circumstances appeared so cruel and deliberate, that the people cried aloud for vengeance. He was brought to his trial before the

house of lords and pleaded insanity of mind. This plea was supported by many witnesses, who attested his lunacy in a variety of instances. In the course of his trial, his lordship, far from exhibiting any marks of insanity, displayed an uncommon sagacity in examining the witnesses, and making many shrewd and pertinent observations on the evidence which was given. So that the cleverness of his defence evinced a soundness of understanding from which it was difficult not to suppose that he was never so much deprived of his reason but that he could distinguish between good and evil; and some other circumstances proving that the crime was committed during a lucid interval, he was unanimously declared guilty and condemned to be hanged at the common place of execution, and his body be afterwards dissected and anatomized.

No naval action of any importance took place in the seas of Europe in the course of this year, except the taking of the small French squadron under the command of the celebrated captain Thurot, which was intended to make a diversion on the northern coast of Ireland, whilst the grand fleet under Mr. de Conflans made the principal descent on the southern parts of that kingdom. His squadron, consisting of five frigates, on board of which were 1270 land troops, exclusive of marines to the number of 700, had been long blocked up in the harbour of Dunkirk by an English fleet; but under favour of an hazy night they put out to sea and arrived at Gottenburg. They lost company of one of their ships in their voyage from Gottenburg to Bergen, where the severity of the weather detained them nineteen days, at the expiration of which they set sail for the western islands of Scotland, and discovered the northern part of Ireland in the latter end of January. Thurot intended to make a descent about Derry; but the weather growing tem-

pestuous, and the wind blowing off shore, his squadron was driven out to sea, and in the night he lost sight of another of his frigates, which never again joined the squadron. The three remaining being extremely shattered and without provisions, he was obliged to put into the Isle of Ilay to refit. Thence he sailed to the bay of Carrickfergus, where he landed his troops now reduced to about 600 men, augmented nearly to 1000 by draughts from his seamen. With this force he rendered himself master of the town and castle of Carrickfergus; took the garrison prisoners of war, and issued orders to Belfast to send him a quantity of wine and provision. He made the same demand to the magistrates of Carrickfergus, which they having imprudently refused, the town was plundered, and the squadron set sail for France. But near the coast of the Isle of Man they were overtaken by three English frigates. A sharp and close engagement immediately ensued. Thurot did all that could be expected from the intrepidity of his character until his ship had her hold almost filled with water and her deck covered with dead bodies. At length he was killed. The crew of his ship, and those of the other two frigates, dispirited by this blow, struck, and were carried in Ramsay Bay in the Isle of Man.

In the mean time all thoughts of peace being removed, the war was prosecuted with the utmost vigour on the continent. France and England vied in their endeavours to augment their forces in Germany. The mareschal de Broglie had now the command of the grand army, amounting to 100,000 effective men; while 30,000 men formed a separate army on the Rhine under the count de St. Germain. On the side of England, the preparations were not less considerable in proportion to her ability for that kind of war. Besides the nu-

merous auxiliaries in her pay, she sent 25,000 men to prince Ferdinand's army; such a number of British troops had not been seen in one army on the continent for 200 years past. The king of Prussia had felt the heaviest blows, and his means of healing them were but little adequate to the purpose. Forty generals had died or were slain in his service since the beginning of the war, exclusive of those who had been wounded, disabled, or made prisoners. By his indefatigable industry, no gaps were seen in his armies, but they were no longer the same; and the king was now to fill up the most remarkable deficiency on the part of his troops by his own heroism, and undertake far more arduous enterprises with infinitely weaker instruments.

In the beginning of the year the death of the landgrave of Hesse Cassel had excited some apprehensions; but the new landgrave gave the strongest proof of his adherence to the system of his father, by his agreeing to add considerably to the Hessian troops in the pay of Great Britain. So that the equilibrium between the armies of the contending powers was nearly re-established. The consequence was, that the successes more disputed and more dearly purchased, were so equally divided between both sides as not to be decisive in favour of any.

Thus we see the hereditary prince of Brunswick defeated at Corbach, retrieving his honour a few days after at Exdorf, and the allies obtaining soon after a victory over the French at Warbourg, when the brigades of English artillery seconded the attack in the most surprising manner; the hereditary prince beats up the quarters of the French at Zeirenberg and is worsted at Campin; the Austrian general, Laudohn, defeats the Prussians under general Fouquet at Landshut, and takes Glatz, but is defeated by the king of Prussia, and raises the blockade of Schweidnitz; the Russians and Aus-

trians make an irruption into Brandenburg, enter Berlin, take the garrison prisoners of war and plunder the king's palaces; but the king of Prussia obtains a complete victory at Torgau over the grand Austrian army under the famous general Daun. An event of the greatest importance happened at that time, and the more engaged the general attention as it might produce a great change in the nature of the war, and particularly in the general system of pacification. This was the sudden death of George II. by the rupture of the substance of the right ventricle of his heart, which stopped in an instant the circulation of blood, without any preceding symptom of illness. His majesty enjoyed an uncommon degree of health and strength, and died without any apparent suffering on the 25th of October, in the 77th year of his age and 33rd of his reign. He had by his queen, Caroline of Anspach, two sons and five daughters, who attained the age of maturity, viz. Frederic prince of Wales, father to his present majesty George III.; William duke of Cumberland; Anne, the princess royal, married to the prince of Orange; Mary, Landgraviate of Hesse Cassel; Louisa, married to the king of Denmark; Amelia and Caroline who were never married.

George II. was in his person rather lower than the middle size, well shaped, erect, with eyes remarkably prominent, a high nose, and fair complexion. In his temper he was hasty, violent, and prone to anger, particularly in his youth, yet soon appeased, and generally mild and humane. On the suppression of the rebellion in 1746, when offended majesty required vengeance, prudence examples, and humanity forgiveness, many were punished and many were pardoned. He was plain in his intentions, true to his word, steady in his favour and

protection to his servants, whom he never willingly changed, nor even parted with his ministers till compelled to it by the violence of faction. His parts were neither lively nor brilliant, but the whole of his conduct evinces that he had remarkable good sense, a solid and comprehensive judgment. He well knew the respective interests of all the sovereigns of Europe, and was particularly skilled in all the recesses of that political labyrinth, the system of Germany, and proved a constant and zealous assertor of its liberties. Temperate and regular in his way of living, his economy, frequently mistaken for avarice, enabled him always to keep up a considerable body of troops in Hanover, by which means, when the war broke out, he had a disciplined force ready to oppose the enemy; and to the prudence of that measure, Great Britain was principally indebted for her prevalent influence in the affairs of the continent. He died at the very point of time, when his military power, the energy and wisdom of his government were raised to almost as high a pitch of glory and prosperity as had never been exceeded by the most fortunate of his predecessors. No prince was ever more popular at the time of his death, which was considered by many as a national calamity, particularly at a juncture when Great Britain was involved in a dangerous war, of which he had been the chief mover, and knew how to preserve the advantages obtained by it, which might be lost by an abrupt change of measures. He has been accused of having carried too far his attachment to his Hanoverian subjects, and even to have betrayed for their interests those of Great Britain; but he has more than wiped off every suspicion of that kind in the seven years war, by his eagerness to expose his German dominions to almost inevitable ruin, rather than acquiesce to the least abatement from

the immensity of the English rights in America. As he came into England in a riper age, he was never able to acquire a sufficient knowledge of the English language to appreciate its beauties and energy, therefore he never shewed a sufficient regard to English literature, which, during his reign, made but little progress, and this is the greatest and perhaps the only reproach he deserved; however, the most important service that could be rendered both to sciences and literature in general, the institution of the British Museum, belongs to his reign, and will for ever secure to his memory the gratitude of all learned men. None of his predecessors on the throne lived to so great an age, and few enjoyed so long a reign, during the course of which, a few months only excepted, Great Britain, even when at war with the principal powers of Europe, enjoyed peace at home, and on many occasions acquired great glory abroad. Her agriculture, commerce, and industry daily improved, owing to the internal tranquillity they enjoyed, and the wise regulations that were made in every session of parliament; and war itself, opening new sources of traffic and riches to the British merchants, greatly contributed to enable the nation to defray its enormous expenses. In short, his majesty having at last baffled all the private machinations of his enemies, and subdued the utmost effort of their power, lived long enough to see all factions and spirit of party extinguished in his kingdoms, and his family immoveably seated on the throne.

[*N.B. This History, according to its original plan, was not to be continued farther than the end of the reign of George II.; but many respectable advices having been addressed to the Author representing to him that the end of the important war of 1756 would be a much more proper conclusion to his work than*

the death of George II.; a general view of the principal transactions which occurred in the interval, will be found in the following pages.]

The new king, on the day of his accession, caused all the lords and other members of the late king's privy council to be assembled, continued them in their office, and declared to them that as he ascended the throne in the midst of an expensive but just and necessary war, he should endeavour to prosecute it in the manner the most likely to bring an honourable and lasting peace in concert with his allies, and he confirmed this declaration in the most solemn manner, November 18th, on the meeting of his parliament. His majesty found both houses readily disposed to support the war with the same liberality and spirit.

The first stone of the new bridge at Blackfriars was laid October 31st. The foundation had began June 7th last, pursuant to an act of parliament of January 13th, 1755. Gottingen is invested by the allies, who keep it blocked up from the 22nd of November until the 12th of December, when the French in a sally compel them to raise the blockade. The armies go into winter quarters. The British troops being worn out with the fatigues of so laborious a campaign, and extremely thinned by diseases, a general discontent arises in the army and is speedily communicated to England, where the people not only complain of the conduct of the war, but begin to fall into an almost general dislike of its principle. Much of the old disputes between the naval and continental schemes is renewed, and the alliances in Germany are severely criticised.

Ann. 1761.

On the 5th of January the whole national debt amounted to 98,604,836*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*

Pondicherry being blocked up by the English squadron under the command of rear-admiral Cornish for upwards of eight months, while colonel Coote carried on his operations by land, the garrison and inhabitants receiving no supplies and reduced to an extremity of famine, which would admit of no hesitation, surrender at discretion on the 15th of January. A little French settlement on the coast of Malabar, called Mahé, is soon after reduced.

In the West Indies, the island of Dominica fortified and settled by the French, was conquered by a small armament under lord Rollo and sir James Douglas. North America was perfectly quieted by a peace which colonel Grant compelled the Cherokees to demand, by penetrating with great courage and perseverance into their country, destroying fifteen of their towns and almost their whole harvest.

The supply for the present year being voted and all parliamentary business concluded, the king puts an end to the session March 19th.

The courts of Petersburg, Vienna, France, Sweden, and Poland, agreed severally and jointly to offer proposals towards renewing negotiations for peace. They made, accordingly, as many declarations, which were signed at Paris March 25th, and delivered at London on the 31st. The counter declaration of Great Britain and Prussia appeared on the 3rd of April. Augsburg was the place appointed for the congress. Lord Egremont, lord Stormont, and general Yorke, were appointed plenipotentiaries on the part of England, and count de Choiseuil on the part of France. The intended treaty was to determine the two principal objects of the war, viz. the fate of the king of Prussia and the limits of America; and as England and France alone were concerned in the latter, it was agreed to treat on this head separately in London and in

Paris. For this purpose, ministers were mutually sent from those courts; Mr. Stanley from England, and Mr. Bussy from France, who by thus separating her own quarrel from the general cause, had every disadvantage in the negotiation, as every disaster of the war in America having been on her side, she had no compensation to offer for any restitution. She had been more successful in Germany, the whole country of Hesse as well as the county of Hanau were in her actual possession, and by her occupation of Gottingen, the Hanoverian territory lay open to her arms; but even there, the advantages she had obtained were still precarious, as the chance of war was still open, no proposition for a suspension of arms having been admitted. The resource she sought for the support of her claims was in Spain, who, she hoped, could not see with indifference the humiliation of the principal branch of the house of Bourbon, nor the French power wholly annihilated in America, as by this event the Spanish colonies must in a great measure lie at the mercy of England, no power being able to afford them any assistance, or to hold the balance between them and the power of England. At this time, however, the court of France had not yet absolutely succeeded in prevailing upon his Catholic Majesty to depart from his neutrality; but she expected that every concession she should make in the treaty, would prove a fresh incentive to the jealousies and apprehensions of the cabinet of Madrid. Thus all the steps which France seemingly took towards peace might eventually have a real tendency towards a new war. On the other hand, the unparalleled success which attended the British arms in this war, had raised such high expectations in the minds of the people, that they thought it unreasonable to make almost any concession to France, and the most popular minister would have lost imme-

diately all his credit, if he had proposed a sacrifice of any of those objects on which the people had set their hearts. In the mean time, it was obvious that the situation of affairs in Germany, though artificially separated in the discussion, must have an influence on the final determination of the treaty, in which no provision could be obtained for the allies, who had done and suffered so much for the common cause, unless Great Britain purchased it by proportionate concessions. In this perplexity, the ministry found no other means to reconcile as much as possible such contrary expectations, than to push the war with the utmost vigour, and, in the mean time, not to hurry the negotiation, as during its progress the fortune of war might enable Great Britain to rescue her allies from their present situation without being obliged to part with any of her former conquests. Such was, at the beginning of the present year, the equivocal progress of the negotiation, owing to the odd mixture of hostile and pacific measures of the two principal contending powers.

Prince Ferdinand, as early as the middle of February, enters into Hesse, and makes his way towards Cassel, while a corps detached from his army penetrates into Thuringia. The French, thrown into confusion by this sudden, extensive, and vigorous attack, retreat upon every side. The hereditary prince first repulsed before Fritzlar and Marpurg, renews successfully his attack against the former, blockades Marpurg, and takes several considerable magazines. The French, abandoning post after post retire almost to the Maine. Encouraged by the rapidity of their success, the allies besiege Cassel, attack and defeat a strong body of the enemy at Langensaltze. The mareschal de Broglio having collected his army marches to the allies, compels them to raise the siege of Cassel after twenty-seven days open trenches, to evacuate the whole country

of Hesse, and to fall back nearly to the quarters they possessed before this expedition, after which, both armies, as if it were by consent, lay quiet in their winter quarters. During their inaction, the negotiation was pursued without interruption. The basis of it, such as proposed by France, was, that the two crowns should remain in possession of what they had conquered one from the other. But as the war still continued, and might make a daily alteration in the fortune of the contracting powers, it was necessary to fix upon some epochas to which this proposition of the *statu quo* should refer. The French proposed that the position in which the parties should stand on the 1st of September next in the East Indies, on the 1st of July in the West Indies and in Africa, and on the 1st of May in Europe, should serve as a basis for the negotiation. The English ministry rejected this proposal, and declared that they could not admit any other epochas than those which had a reference to the day of signing the treaty of peace. The plenipotentiaries on both sides strongly insisted on their respective proposals.

During this debate, a secret expedition which was preparing in the English harbours was undertaken. The fleet employed in it sailed from Spithead on the 29th of March under the command of commodore Keppel, and the land forces under general Hodgson, and arrived on the 7th of April before Belleisle, the largest of the European islands belonging to France. After an obstinate resistance and the loss of eighteen hundred men killed or wounded, the whole island was reduced under the English government June 7th.

England and France agree on the epochas of the *statu quo* such as proposed by the former, and to treat for a separate peace to be perfectly definitive as to them. The court of Vienna agrees to it on con-

dition that nothing might be stipulated to the prejudice of the house of Austria.

The French generals, prince Soubise and marshal de Broglio, effect a junction, overtake and attack the rear of general Sporcken's army on the Dymel, put it to rout in an instant, and take 800 prisoners, 19 pieces of cannon, 400 horses, and upwards of 170 waggons. The same day, July 2nd, they pass the Dymel and make themselves masters of Warburgh, Dringleburg and Paderborn. They are defeated by prince Ferdinand at Kirch Denkern, but they soon advance again; a number of very sharp skirmishes ensue, in one of which, the young prince Henry of Brunswick is mortally wounded. The city of Brunswick is invested by the French, and they spread a great alarm by the rapidity of their unresisted progress to the eastward of the Weser. Prince Ferdinand, with all possible expedition, detaches the hereditary prince to the relief of Brunswick. He compels the enemy not only to raise the siege, but to abandon Wolfenbuttel and to make a precipitate retreat. Prince de Soubise, who by the removal of the hereditary prince was no longer opposed, ravages Westphalia, takes Osnaburg, and gives up the place to be pillaged by the troops. Another body pushes as far as Embden and takes possession of it. A more considerable force commanded by prince de Condé, attacks Meppen, a place of some consequence on the Ems, where the British army had some magazines. In three days the garrison surrender and are made prisoners of war.

During all these motions so rapidly succeeding one another, the king of Prussia entrenched in a very strong position in Upper Silesia, remained entirely upon the defensive; the summer was almost wholly spent, and he had scarcely been mentioned. The Russian army was now divided into two strong

bodies ; one directed its march towards Pomerania, while the other entered into Upper Silesia ; general Laudohn entered that province in the part opposite to them, with a view of uniting their armies to attack the king, or to take Breslau or Schweidnitz in his presence. They began to cannonade Breslau from seven batteries, while Laudohn exerted the whole of his skill to draw the king from his position. In the mean time the Russians advanced without opposition into Pomerania, and Colberg was besieged with greater and more determined force than ever. The king, alarmed at the danger of this fortress, the key of his dominions to the north, sent a considerable detachment under general Platen to the assistance of Colberg. He ordered him to direct his march through Poland, and to destroy the Russian magazines on the frontiers from which their army in Silesia drew its whole subsistence. The event answered entirely his wishes, Platen ruined the three principal magazines, attacked a great convoy of their waggons, destroyed 500, burned or dispersed the provisions they carried, killed or made prisoners the greater part of 4000 men, who protected the convoy, and pursued his march with the utmost diligence towards Pomerania. Soon after general Laudohn takes Schweidnitz by a coup de main ; general Platen is repulsed ; Knoblock, another Prussian general, is made prisoner. Colberg, after a siege of nearly six months, surrenders to the Russians, who, for the first time, take their winter quarters in Pomerania, December 16th.

The negotiations were resumed, but soon degenerated into altercations, though France consented that the whole Canada should be ceded to England, and to give up Senegal and Gorée, that the conquests in the West Indies should be reciprocally restored, and that the proposals of Great Britain respecting the East Indies should be admitted. But

there were two points upon which the parties could not so easily agree. The first was upon the manner in which England and France might be at liberty to assist their respective allies, and on the restitution of Wesel, Gelders, and such other places as the French had conquered from his Prussian majesty; the second related to the restitution of the captures made previous to the declaration of war, and the negotiating powers were equally positive, the one to demand, the other to refuse it; and as they were both immovable on these two points, the English ministry sent directions to Mr. Stanley to return to England, and to desire that M. de Bussy, on the part of his court, should receive the same orders. The leading negotiation in London and Paris being thus broken off, that which was to be opened at Augsburg never took place.

At this juncture the court of Spain sent a memorial to offer to Great Britain her mediation for accommodating the disputes that obstructed the negotiations for peace. The ministry found at first, as singular as improper, that points of such consequence should be formally communicated, and proposed for deliberation by M. de Bussy, the French agent, when the Spaniards had an ambassador residing in London, from whom no sort of communication had been previously received on this subject. Accordingly the Spanish ambassador was called upon to disavow that proceeding. But he openly avowed and justified the steps taken by the French agent, as entirely agreeable to the sentiments of his master, whose conduct, as well as that of his most Christian Majesty, was only influenced by a sincere desire for peace; and he added, haughtily, that if his master had been actuated by any other motive, his Catholic Majesty, giving full scope to his greatness, would have acted and spoken as became his dignity. The ministry concluded from this answer, that there was a per-

fect union of affections, interests, and councils between these two courts, as the ambassador, far from denying or palliating this conduct, seemed to glory in it.

Mr. Pitt, who then took the lead in the ministry, being satisfied that the intentions of Spain were by no means equivocal, and would drive her into all the measures of France, considered war on that account as absolutely inevitable, and vehemently insisted on its being declared immediately on the part of England, as a necessary lesson to Spain, and to every other power, how they should presume to dictate in the affairs of Great Britain, and to intermeddle with a menacing mediation, and an officiousness as insidious as it was audacious.

These sentiments, or rather this remarkable specimen of the resolute and enterprising character of the minister, appeared too violent to almost all the rest of his colleagues, who were of opinion, that a satisfactory explanation might be still expected from the court of Spain, and would be preferable; that to shun a war upon a just occasion was cowardice, but to provoke or court it was madness. The minister, warmed by this opposition, insisted that this was the time to humble the whole house of Bourbon; that if this opportunity were let slip, it might never be recovered; he added, that if he could not prevail in this instance, he was resolved that this was the last time he would sit in that council; that he was called to the ministry by the voice of the people, to whom he considered himself accountable for his conduct, and that he would no longer remain in a situation which made him responsible for measures he was no longer allowed to guide.

The duke of Newcastle, who presided in this council, and was himself as bold a minister as ever directed the affairs of the nation, but to whose abilities years had added the wisdom of experience,

calmly made this reply : “ I find the gentleman is determined to leave us, nor can I say I am sorry for it, since he would otherwise have certainly compelled us to leave him ; as, if he be resolved to assume the right of advising his majesty, and directing alone the operations of the war, there would be no occasion for our being called to this council. When he talks of being responsible to the people, he talks the language of the house of commons, and forgets that at this board, he is only responsible to the king. However, though he may possibly have convinced himself of his infallibility, still it remains that we should be equally convinced of it, before we can resign our understandings to his direction, or join with him in the measures he proposes.”

When Mr. Pitt resigned the seals, the king received them with ease and firmness, without requesting that he should resume his office ; his majesty expressed his concern for the loss of so able a servant, and to shew the favourable sense he entertained of his services he made him a most gracious and unlimited offer of any reward in the power of the crown to bestow. The king expressed at the same time his entire approbation of his council's opinion, as more consistent with the still existing treaties and good understanding between the two courts, and therefore with the principles of honour and integrity ; principles which from that early period have been the constant rule of the public and private conduct of this virtuous monarch, and have successively raised the glory of his reign in proportion with its almost unparalleled length.

Mr. Pitt was extremely affected with the king's condescension and magnanimity. “ I confess, sir,” said he, “ I had but too much reason to expect your majesty's displeasure ; I did not come prepared for this exceeding goodness. Pardon me, sir—it

“overpowers, it oppresses me.”—He burst into tears.

The next day, September 9, a pension of 3000*l.* a-year was settled on Mr. Pitt for three lives, and at the same time a title was conferred upon his lady, and his issue, by the name, style, and title of baroness of Chatham. Immediate notice of all these transactions was given in the Gazette. The resignation made the first article, the honours and rewards the next, and they were followed by a letter from the English ambassador in Spain, containing an account of the favourable and pacific language of that court, and of the strong assurances they gave of a desire to accommodate all differences in an amicable manner. This publication was prudently issued to prevent all explosions of popular rage, which it was apprehended would proceed from this resignation, and it completely answered its purpose.

Mr. Pitt, when the parliament met, justified his conduct with as much propriety as moderation, without allowing himself to throw the least hint of disapprobation either on the conduct of his colleagues, or on the measure that had been adopted contrary to his opinion; and he thus raised the dignity of his high character, far above the illiberal abuse which was poured out against him on this occasion.

The earl of Bristol, the British ambassador in Spain, was immediately ordered to remonstrate with energy and firmness on the contents of the Spanish memorial, and on the form of its delivery; and at the same time to adhere to the preceding answers of Great Britain to the pretensions of the court of Spain respecting the contested captures, the adjustment of the log-wood dispute, the evacuation of the settlements on the coast of Honduras, and their claim of fishing at Newfoundland. He found the Spanish minister in a very equivocal disposition, and received very unsatisfactory answers on every

part of his instructions. In the mean time a treaty was privately signed between the courts of France and Spain, the purport of which was to preserve from oppression, and to maintain the interests of the house of Bourbon. The earl of Bristol was directed to demand a communication of that treaty, and to signify that a peremptory refusal either to communicate the treaty, or to disavow an intention to take part with the enemies of Great Britain, would be considered as an aggression on the part of Spain, and an absolute declaration of war. The Spanish minister peremptorily refused to comply with this demand, and signified to lord Bristol that he might return to England when and in what manner was convenient to him. His lordship accordingly departed from Madrid December 17, and thus was brought on a rupture which threatened to protract the miseries of war to a very long duration.

On the 8th of September, the princess Charlotte of Mechlenburgh Strelitz arrived at St. James's palace, and at night the nuptials between his majesty and her serene highness were celebrated with great pomp, at the royal chapel. Their majesties were crowned with the usual solemnities at Westminster Abbey, September 22.

The parliament met on the 3d of November, and on the 2d of the next month the king went to the house of peers, and gave the royal assent to the bill for settling her majesty's dowry.

Ann. 1762.

The national debt on the 5th of January amounted to 110,603,836*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*, and the supplies granted for this year were 18,300,143*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

The negotiations which had taken place last year, instead of bringing about peace among the belligerent powers, had increased their animosity, In the

mean time, the treaty concluded between the branches of the house of Bourbon, so well known by the name of *the Family Compact*, had completely settled between the French and Spanish monarchies that union which was so much dreaded on the death of Charles II. the late king of Spain, and which it was the great purpose of the treaty of partition and the war of the grand alliance to prevent. However, the principal continental powers of Europe who then composed that formidable confederacy, were now allied with France, and seemed to conspire to load the scale on her side, instead of balancing it; she was in fact become the centre of a powerful alliance, extending from the northern to the southern extremity of Europe, including Russia, Sweden, Austria, the Empire, Spain, and Naples; while she had only to contend with Great Britain, who could neither increase her strength in Germany, where she paid already 100,000 men, composing the allied army, nor the subsidy of the king of Prussia, whose condition was rather more alarming than intimidating. Under these circumstances the next campaign could not only offer to Great Britain a very gloomy prospect.

Such was the situation of political affairs in Europe when the French and Spanish ministers presented a joint memorial to the court of Lisbon, tending to persuade his most faithful majesty to enter into the alliance, and co-operate in the measures of the two crowns against Great Britain. In the mean time a Spanish army overspread the frontiers of Portugal; the commerce of corn between the two kingdoms was prohibited, and every thing threatened a sudden invasion. The two ministers were ordered to demand a categorical answer in four days, and to declare that any delay beyond that time would be considered as a negative.

In this dangerous emergency the king of Portu-

gal displayed such an immoveable uprightness as will for ever recommend his name to posterity. His answer was, that the ties which equally united him to Great Britain and the two crowns, rendered him as proper a mediator to them all, as they made it improper for him to declare himself an enemy to any of them; that his alliance with Great Britain was ancient, merely defensive, and therefore innocent in all its circumstances. This answer drew on replies and menaces, upon which this magnanimous prince finally declared, that should the troops of their most christian and catholic majesties enter his dominions, he would, in defence of his neutrality, endeavour to repulse them with all his forces and those of his allies, *and that it would affect him less, though reduced to the last extremity, to let the last tile of his palace fall, and to see his faithful subjects spill the last drop of their blood, than to sacrifice, together with the honour of his crown, all that Portugal holds most dear.* Immediately after this declaration passports were demanded for the ambassadors of the two crowns, and soon after France and Spain jointly declared war against Portugal.

At this juncture, an unexpected event, the death of the empress of Russia, suddenly gave a new turn to the affairs of Europe, and very favourable to the king of Prussia. Fortune, who had so long abandoned him to his genius, after having persecuted him about five years, at length made amends, and did at one stroke the only thing by which he could possibly be saved. Peter III. who succeeded to the throne of Russia, immediately manifested the high rate at which he valued the blessings of peace. In a memorial which he caused to be delivered on the 23d of February to the ministers of the allied courts, he declared that to forward the establishment of peace, he was ready to sacrifice all the conquests made by the arms of Russia in this war, in hopes

that the allied courts would concur in the same disposition. The allies praised his disinterestedness, but recommended to his attention the fidelity to treaties, which constituted a no less valuable part of the royal character. They shewed a disposition to imitate his desire for peace, but by no means to purchase it by a cession of the advantages they had acquired or hoped to acquire by the war.

Peter having thus complied with decency, and being little inclined to engage in any farther negotiations on this point, concluded a suspension of hostilities with the king of Prussia, March 16, and soon after a treaty of peace and alliance, May 5. Nothing was stipulated by the Czar in favour of his former confederates, whom he entirely abandoned. He even agreed to join his troops to those of the king of Prussia, to act against them; and in a little time the same army who had brought the Austrians into Silesia, was seen, in conjunction with one of Prussia, driving them out of that province.

Sweden followed, on this as on all other occasions, the example of the court of Petersburg, and signed a treaty of peace with the king of Prussia, who lost no time in taking advantage of this revolution. Very early in the campaign, prince Henry made a vigorous push on the Imperial posts towards the frontiers of Saxony, took 4000 prisoners, 365 wag-gons, several trophies, and effectually secured against any attempt all the part of Saxony possessed by the Prussians. As soon as the Russian army had joined the king of Prussia, he attacked marshal Daun and compelled him to fall back to the extremities of Silesia, leaving Schweidnitz uncovered. The king of Prussia prepared to invest that city, when he was all at once threatened with a sudden reverse by a new revolution in Russia, which dethroned his friend and faithful ally the czar Peter, whose deposition was followed close by his death.

The king and queen take their residence at Buckingham house, since called the queen's palace, May 19.

The parliament is prorogued June 2.

The czarina, Catherine II. declared empress, adopts a neutrality, restores to the king of Prussia all the important places which had been taken by the Russians, and recalls her troops from the Prussian army. Before the news of this change could reach marshal Daun, the king of Prussia attacked him, took 1000 prisoners, 14 pieces of cannon, and succeeded in cutting off all communication of the Imperialists with Schweidnitz, while prince Henry held them in continual alarm for Bohemia. The king laid siege before Schweidnitz, and opened the trenches July 18, after having routed with great slaughter general Laudohn, who had attempted to attack one of his posts.

Meanwhile the French had two armies, as in the last campaign, one under prince de Soubise and mareschal d'Estrées, on the Weser, and another under the prince de Condé, on the Lower Rhine. The prince was posted to watch the latter of these armies, and prince Ferdinand was to make head against the former. However, by the most skilful marches executed with as much celerity as good order, prince Ferdinand succeeded in attacking the enemy all at once in front, flank, and rear, with the greatest impetuosity, June 24. The battle was scarcely begun when they thought of nothing but flight. Besides the killed and wounded, the French had 2912 men taken prisoners, including no less than 162 officers. Prince de Soubise, after a retreat executed with great precipitation, took position on the heights of Mulsingen, where he could not be attacked without the greatest difficulty and hazard. There, however, prince Ferdinand offered him battle for a whole day, but the prince de Soubise's army was still so low spirited from their

last defeat, that rather than risk an engagement he decamped in the night.

The queen is happily delivered of a prince, Aug. 12.

In Portugal, the first body of Spanish forces, which commenced hostilities, took Miranda, Braganza, Chaves, Almeyda, and some other places, without any resistance. The second body of Spaniards attacked Almeyda, which was defended with sufficient resolution. It surrendered, however, upon terms honourable to the garrison. By this time the count of La Lippe-Buckleburg had arrived in Portugal, in time to oppose the third Spanish corps, which would have completed the intended invasion had it been joined to the two others already in Portugal. He committed the attack of one of their advanced bodies to brigadier-general Burgoyne, who effected a complete surprise on the town of Valentia of Alcantara, on the Spanish frontiers, took the general who was to command the invasion, and several other officers, and completely destroyed one of the best regiments in the Spanish service. He afterwards obtained some other advantages, until the rainy season coming, the country became so impracticable, that the Spaniards, unprovided with magazines for the winter, were obliged to fall back to their frontiers.

The naval occurrences in the West-Indies were far more decisive in favour of Great-Britain. As early as the month of January admiral Rodney, at the head of a fleet of twenty ships of the line, eleven frigates, and fourteen bomb-ketches, with nearly 12,000 men on board under the command of general Monkton, attacked Martinico, and was put in possession of the whole island by the capitulation of Fort St. Pierre. The surrender of Martinico drew on the surrender of all the dependent islands, Grenada, the Grenadillas, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent. The English were now in possession of all the Cari-

bees, and held that chain of innumerable islands extending from the eastern point of Hispaniola almost to the continent of South America.

This important conquest being effected just at the time when war was declared against Spain, it became adviseable to strike early such a blow against that nation as might incline them to a speedy peace. It was resolved accordingly to attack the Havannah, the centre of the whole trade and navigation of the Spanish West-Indies, and a well fortified place, built upon a projecting point of land, secured by two strong forts, surrounded by a good rampart, flanked with bastions, and covered with a ditch. Such commanders were chosen as could be safely entrusted with the conduct of so weighty an enterprise. The land forces were commanded by lord Albemarle, and the fleet by admiral Pococke. They sailed from Portsmouth March 5, were joined at Cape Nicholas by a strong detachment of the forces from Martinico, and having passed through the old dangerous straits of Bahama, they arrived off the Havannah, effected their landing June 7, and after a most obstinate and bloody resistance took possession of the place August 14. The enemy on this occasion lost a whole fleet, consisting of nine first rate ships of the line, and the value of the ready money, tobacco, and other merchandize, did not fall short of three millions. Another Spanish register ship, the *Hermione*, worth a million at least, had been taken three months before.

The dispositions to peace became now more cordial on both sides. Great Britain had enough in her hands to answer all her purposes, and it was time to close the war, when every end that could be rationally expected in carrying it on, was obtained. Besides, the nation, seeing that the most lucrative conquests were far from keeping pace with her expenses, daily grew colder upon new victories,

and wanted peace. On the other hand, France and Spain, after their little progress in Portugal, and their recent considerable losses in the West-Indies, were sensible that in their present situation, Great Britain was not likely to be reduced by the utmost exertions of their united forces, and that a speedy peace was by far a surer way to put an end to her conquests. Both parties thus concurring in the same point, all difficulties were easily removed. It was generally said, that the first overtures had been made under the mediation of the king of Sardinia. As soon as terms were proposed, it was agreed that this treaty should not be negotiated as the former had been, by subordinate persons; but that both courts should reciprocally send to London and Versailles a person of the first distinction in either kingdom. Accordingly the duke of Bedford was sent to negotiate on the part of England, and the duke de Nivernois on that of France.

As there was no suspension of hostilities during the negotiation, the armies continued to fight with the same ardour, and respectively obtained alternate advantages. Newfoundland was taken by the French and retaken a few days after by the English. The hereditary prince was defeated at Iohannisberg. Prince Ferdinand having defeated the French, invested Cassel. After a long and dreadful cannonade, the French took the small castle of Amonsbourg, and Cassel surrendered to prince Ferdinand; while Schweidnitz surrendered to prince Henry, who defeated the Austrians, and pushed them back to Freyberg. But as none of these actions either suspended or influenced the negotiation, a more minute account would be superfluous, as the bare mention of them is more than sufficient for history to deplore, that so much blood was spilt to no purpose. The signing of the preliminaries of peace, notified in the two armies November 15, put at last an

happy conclusion to all military operations. The ratification of these preliminaries were interchanged at Versailles November 22, and on the 1st of December the cessation of arms was proclaimed in London; and leave given to go out of the kingdom on board the packet-boats, without taking passes from the secretary of state's office.

The session of parliament was opened on the 25th of November.

On the 9th of November the preliminary articles of peace were taken into consideration by a most numerous house of commons, and approved of by a great majority.

Ann. 1763.

The definitive treaty of peace between Great Britain, France, and Spain, was concluded at Paris February 10. The king of Portugal acceded to it the same day; it consists of twenty-seven articles, the substance of which follows.

I. II. III. All the preceding treaties existing between the contracting powers are renewed and confirmed in all their points, which shall not be derogated from in the present treaty. All the prisoners and hostages carried away during the war, shall be respectively restored without ransom.

IV. His most Christian Majesty renounces all pretensions to Nova Scotia or Acadia, and moreover cedes and guarantees to his Britannic majesty, in full right, Canada and all its dependencies, as well as the island of Cape Breton, and all other islands and coasts in the gulph and river of St. Lawrence.

V. VI. The subjects of France shall have the liberty of fishing and drying on a part of the coast of Newfoundland, and even in the gulph of St. Lawrence, but at the distance of three leagues from all the coasts and islands belonging to Great Britain, and at the distance of fifteen leagues from the coasts

of the island of Cape Breton. The king of Great Britain cedes the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon in full right to his most Christian Majesty, to serve as a shelter to the French fishermen; and his most Christian Majesty engages not to fortify the said islands, nor to erect upon them any other buildings than for the conveniency of fishery with a guard of fifty men only for the police.

VII. The confines between the British and French territories on the continent of America shall be fixed irrevocably by a line drawn along the middle of the river Mississippi from its source to the river Iberville, and from thence by a line drawn along the middle of that river, and the lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain to the sea; and for this purpose the most Christian King cedes and guarantees to his Britannic Majesty the river and port of the Mobile, and every thing he possesses on the left side of the river Mississippi, except the island of New Orleans.

VIII. IX. X. The king of Great Britain shall restore to France the islands of Martinico, Guadeloupe, Desirade, Mary Galante, Belleisle, and Gorée, in the same condition they were in when conquered by the British arms; and the most Christian King cedes and guarantees to his Britannic Majesty, the islands of Grenada, the Grenadines, St. Vincent, Dominica, and Tobago, as well as the river Senegal, with the forts and factories of St. Louis, Podor and Galan.

XI. XII. XIII. In the East Indies, all the settlements and factories possessed by France at the beginning of the year 1749, are restored to that nation, and his most Christian Majesty renounces all pretensions to all acquisitions he had made in that country from the same period. The island of Minorca shall be restored to his Britannic Majesty, and the port and town of Dunkirk shall be put into the state fixed by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle.

XIV. XV. XVI. All the countries and fortresses

belonging to the electorate of Hanover, the landgrave of Hesse, the duke of Brunswick, and the count of Lipppe-Bückeburg, which are or shall be occupied by his most Christian Majesty, shall be restored in the same condition they were when conquered. Their Britannic and most Christian Majesties promise to proceed *bona fide* with all possible despatch to the evacuation to be made by their respective armies, of the countries they occupy in Westphalia, Lower Saxony, Lower and Upper Rhine, and in all the empire, as well as of the fortresses of Cleves, Wesel, Gueldres, and all the countries belonging to the king of Prussia, and now occupied by France. The decision respecting the prizes made in the time of peace by the subjects of Great Britain on the Spaniards, shall be referred to the admiralty of Great Britain.

XVII. XVIII. XIX. All the fortifications erected by the English in the bay of Honduras and other places of the territory of Spain in that part of the world shall be demolished, and his Britannic Majesty's subjects shall not be disturbed under any pretence in their occupation of cutting, loading, and carrying away log-wood. His Catholic Majesty desists from all pretensions of fishing in the neighbourhood of Newfoundland. The island of Cuba and the island of Havannah shall be restored to Spain in the same condition as when conquered.

XX. XXI. XXII. XXIII. His Catholic Majesty cedes and guarantees to his Britannic Majesty, Florida with fort St. Augustin, the bay of Pensacola, and all that Spain possesses on the continent of North America, to the east or to the south-east of the river Mississippi. The French and Spanish troops shall evacuate all the territories and places belonging to his most faithful majesty either in Portugal or in the Portuguese colonies. All the countries and territories which may have been respectively conquered in

whatsoever part of the world, by the arms of their majesties, and are not included in the present treaty, will be restored without difficulty and without requiring any compensation.

XXIV. This article assigns fixed epochas for the restitutions and evacuations to be made.

XXV. XXVI. XXVII. All the dominions and possessions of his Britannic Majesty in Germany as elector of Brunswick Lunenbourg, are included and guaranteed by the present treaty, all the articles of which their Majesties promise to observe sincerely and *bona fide*, and to guarantee generally and reciprocally to each other all its stipulations. The solemn ratifications of it, expedited in good and due form, shall be exchanged at Paris between the high contracting parties in the space of a month, or sooner if possible, to be computed from the day of the signature of the treaty.

The empress of Austria, the kings of Prussia and Poland, were not included in this treaty; but a cessation of arms being agreed on between Austria and Prussia, for Saxony and Silesia, a neutrality was proposed for the empire; at last, negotiations were opened at the royal castle of Hubersbourg, where the peace was concluded February 15th.

Thus George III. availing himself of the successes with which Providence had blessed his arms, had, at the age of twenty-four years the wisdom of preferring to new laurels, the more solid glory of restoring tranquillity to the four quarters of the globe, by a treaty, which, at the same time, secured to Great Britain an important addition of territory, and a great extension of her commerce.

General Observations.

This period is one of the most important in the history of Great Britain, as indeed it is the era of

the final improvements of her constitution, which being matured by time, experience, and revolutions of all kinds, has at last attained, by the bill of rights and the ensuing settlements of the crown, such a degree of strength as to secure in their proper limits, more efficaciously than ever, the dignity and prerogative of the monarch, the liberties and privileges of the people, and the national religion—invaluable blessings, the enjoyment of which can hardly be disturbed, even by the clamours occasionally arising from the popular eloquence and influence of some hot-headed men, who, having only a superficial knowledge of the constitution, might undesignedly shake and crush down its very foundations, if they could ever succeed in introducing the least alteration either in any constitutional part of the executive authority, or in the respective attributes and prerogatives of any branch of the legislative power. Let then those deluded, though well-intentioned patriots, be aware, that the whole strength and stability of the constitution rests entirely on its ever preserving, unimpaired, even to the smallest degree, that happy mixture of the monarchical, republican, and aristocratical forms of government so skilfully interwoven and counterpoised in it, as to produce nearly all the advantages of each without the dangers or inconveniences of any. Let them consider the three different branches of the legislature as constituting the basis, or rather the three fundamental stones of the constitution, the solidity of which essentially depends on their being constantly kept on the same level with each other. The least attempt to raise one of them above that constitutional level, must endanger the equilibrium, and the very existence of the whole fabric. Thus an over-weening royalist or an over-weening republican endeavouring to enlarge either the royal prerogative or the privileges of the peo-

ple beyond their essential limits, are equally far from deserving to be reckoned among the true friends to their country, and are rather to be considered as its most pernicious enemies.

This constitutional doctrine, long ago adopted as such, has been ever since confirmed by constant practice. Without looking farther back than the reign of Charles II. we find that the commons having tried to introduce the use of tacking to the money-bills such other acts as they wanted more particularly to be passed; the lords, though the king did not remonstrate against this encroachment, foresaw, that by allowing it to grow into common practice, it would totally destroy the equilibrium between the three branches of the legislature, which they firmly maintained by insisting that all bills should be framed in the usual parliamentary form, and at last made it a standing order of their house, to reject all acts tacked to money-bills. During the same reign, the upper house threw out on the first reading, the bill to exclude from the throne the duke of York the immediate heir to it. Under William III. the lords, with a view of abridging the prerogative of the crown respecting the convocation of parliaments, and the fixing of the proper time for it, passed a bill for securing the sitting of parliament every year, but the commons rejected this bill. Such was, likewise, the fate of another attempt of the house of lords in the reign of George I. to wrest from the crown the important prerogative of adding new members to the house of peers whenever his majesty should think it proper. They accordingly passed a bill to limit the members of the upper house to a fixed number, beyond which, it should not be increased; but all their efforts to prevail upon the commons to pass this bill completely failed, as well as the repeated attempts of the house of commons to restrain

the influence of the crown arising from the distribution of preferments and other advantages; thence the place-bills, renewed every year in the house of commons, constantly miscarried in the house of lords.

Thus the wise distribution of power between the three constituent parts of the legislature has been successively so consolidated, as to render any material usurpation of one upon another utterly impracticable. Each of them indeed possesses sufficient strength to insure respect to its constitutional rights. The king has on his side, the majesty and reverence attending the royal title, with all the attributes of the executive power the most extensive. The two houses appear to be nothing else than councils entirely depending on him. They are bound to follow his person; they only meet as it seems to advise him, and never address him but in the most respectful manner. He calls, dismisses, and even dissolves them whenever he pleases. The peers, who in point both of real weight and number, bear no proportion to the body of the people, have received as a compensation the advantage of personal honours, and of an hereditary title; they are the upper house, and considered more particularly as the king's council; the throne is in the place where they assemble; when the commons are sent for by the king, they appear at the bar of the house of lords, and bring their impeachments before them; besides, the lords are members of the legislature, by virtue of a right inherent in their persons, and are supposed to sit in parliament on their own account, and for the support of their own interests; they have accordingly the privilege of giving their votes by proxies. In a word, as the upper house is destined frequently to balance the power of the commons, it has received in outward splendour and greatness what it could not have in real strength. The commons have exclusively the impor-

tant power of granting or refusing the supplies, a powerful weapon, which has enabled their ancestors to establish the constitution. It is from their liberality alone that the king can obtain those subsidies, without which he can do nothing; they are besides invested with the initiative in legislation with respect to money-bills, or with the office of framing such laws and proposing them.

The executive power has not been less wisely provided for by the constitution, by trusting the whole of it to the king, and rendering it as immoveable as indivisible; it has utterly annihilated the possibility of those accumulations of power which have been the ruin of so many republics, and put an insuperable bar to all ambitious attempts against government. If the public power was entrusted to several persons with different titles and prerogatives, a variety and instability of measures, an endless fluctuation of principles, and a more or less violent opposition between these co-partners, would continually endanger the good order and tranquillity of the state. Should any of them succeed so far as to raise himself above the others, and of course above the law, despotism would be the immediate consequence. When Charles I. resigned part of the executive power to the parliament, and rendered them independent of him, by divesting himself from the right of dissolving them, a civil war almost immediately ensued, and the state was dissolved. It must be observed, moreover, that the executive power being confined in the same hands, is always more easily surveyed and more effectually restrained at its least deviation from the constitutional line. Its encroachments, or rather the apprehension of them, being the constant object of the alarm of the people, their eyes are continually fixed upon all its measures with a watchful jealousy, and the strictest inquiries hovering incessantly over them, either pre-

vent or infallibly discover all its abuses, if any occur. Notwithstanding, however, all these jealousies and difficulties, the executive power, though unassisted by any standing armed force, and supported only by the omnipotence of the law, is much stronger and more readily obeyed in England than in any other country, as its action being always regulated by those very laws framed and proposed by the representatives of the nation, and considered by the people as their own decrees, every one of them spontaneously concur in enforcing their execution. The monarch being thus unalterably invested with the highest degree of power and dignity, is an effectual check to the pretensions of all ambitious men, who otherwise would strive to invade a part of it. Some of them, however, endowed with the most eminent abilities, and commendable by conspicuous public services, might still occasionally acquire such great popularity and influence in the house of commons as to be enabled to raise more or less dangerous commotions against the government; but all danger vanishes as soon as they are appointed to a place in the administration, or created peers, whether they choose to accept or refuse it, as, in the latter case, the natural suspicion of their entertaining more ambitious views and pernicious designs, would immediately destroy all their credit and popularity. The nation is now too enlightened to suffer their grievances to be ever redressed by any unconstitutional means, or by the illegal attempts of any individual. They very well know, that the parliament have at all times in their power to take a thorough review of the state and government, and correct the smallest abuses that may have crept in. This regular way of ever bringing back the constitution to the purity of its principles, necessarily secures its stability, so as to leave no occasion or pretence whatsoever for any popular commotion. These are the principal outlines of the English

constitution such as it stood at the end of this period; a constitution which certainly deserves to be much better known and appreciated than it can be by the abridged account in which I have been obliged to confine myself by the narrow limits of this work. I cannot conclude it, however, without inviting deeper politicians and philosophers than I am, to consider whether this constitution, so well adapted to the situation of Great Britain, and to the genius, character, and inclinations of its inhabitants, as to improve every day, and increase in the same proportion their happiness and prosperity, could not be adapted, with proper modifications, and the same success, to other countries, so as to become one day the constitution of all the nations of Europe; a period which those who do not consider war as a necessary scourge, must anticipate the more fondly, as a general and solid peace would be its immediate consequences; as all offensive wars being implicitly precluded by that blessed constitution, the occasion for defensive ones could never occur.

CONCLUSION.

No other history can afford more than this, so many important events for the instruction both of nations and princes; foreign invasions, usurpations, either by conquest, civil war, or without any bloodshed, kings dethroned, princes murdered, intestine wars, religious bloody changes and commotions, tyranny, oppression of all sorts, conspiracies, attempts of the people towards recovering their liberty, rebellions, revolutions, &c. &c. occurred no where more frequently than in England. The first period of its history shews Britain, in the earliest infancy of its civilization, divided into thirty-eight kingdoms, invaded by the Romans, who, by the mildness of their government, having gained the affections of their new subjects, instructed them in the arts of peace, erected

cities, towns, and villages in great numbers, divided the country by many substantial roads, and soon naturalized in it all the Roman luxuries, so that the Britons, indulging themselves in the indolence of this new life, lost entirely the use of arms, and became an easy prey to the first bold invader, when the Romans abandoned them nearly 450 years after their first invasion. The second period begins with the ferocious wars that attended the invasion of the Saxons, whom the Britons had called to their assistance against the inroads of the Scots and Picts. These plunderers were repelled; but, as a reward for such an important service, the Saxons took possession of the finest provinces of Britain, and successively of the whole country, by the complete extirpation of all the inhabitants, as the few that remained were either reduced to slavery, or obliged to take refuge in the mountains of Wales and Cornwall, or to fly into foreign countries, so that the nation was thus entirely changed; the Anglo-Saxons became the new Britons, and divided the country into those seven kingdoms forming the heptarchy, which ended about 400 years after their invasion. Then began with the third period the Saxon dynasty, composed almost generally of princes, whose eminent talents, courage, and amiable virtues, have for ever endeared their memory to their loving subjects, and rendered the more odious those savage Danish invaders, who, after the most bloody revolution, usurped the British throne, and kept it for twenty-four years, when the crown was restored to the Saxon line on the head of Edward the confessor, the last prince of that dynasty who sat on the English throne. He was succeeded by Harold, son of earl Godwin, whose usurpation met with no opposition, on account of his great popularity; but his reign, which concluded the third period, lasted only nine months, and ended with his life at the

famous battle of Hastings, which placed William the Conqueror on the throne; a revolution which, though less sanguinary than the two former, produced no less important changes, and particularly the complete spoliation of all the possessors of land, according to the laws of the feudal system, the introduction of which in England followed immediately the conquest, and constituted William the territorial lord and sovereign of all the lands in his dominions. His succession in the male line extended no farther than his own son. But it continued in the female line, in more or less remote degrees, in the several dynasties that have filled the throne from the fourth period. With the fifth began the dynasty of the house of Anjou or Plantagenet, the most conspicuous of all by the number of princes it has produced, who have been reckoned among the greatest of their time for wisdom, virtue, and abilities; but they did more for the glory than for the happiness of England, where the spirit of rebellion of the nobility against the prince, and animosities against each other, kept the whole country in a state of turbulence, and licentiousness, which the feudal institutions, still forming the only political constitution of the state, were unable to repress. However, these disorders, increased and rendered insupportable through the vices and follies of king John, encouraged his subjects to demand, and enabled them to obtain that famous Great Charter, which after many confirmations and improvements, became at last the solid foundation of the English constitution and liberty. But its execution was impeded, and its stability much endangered in the following period, not only by the arbitrary exertions of the royal prerogative, and the frequent rebellions of the highest classes of the nobility, but by the bloody divisions of the two houses of York and Lancaster, and the civil wars which ensued, until the re-union of the two branches,

which was effected by the marriage of Elizabeth of York, the daughter of Edward IV. with Henry VII. the chief of the Tudor dynasty, whose reign opens the seventh period, and was marked with many acts of the most odious tyranny. During this period Magna Charta was very seldom attended to, and every reign exhibited a specimen of a different kind of despotism, to which the long reign of Elizabeth and her fascinating manners had nearly accustomed the nation, when it was roused from its lethargy in the ensuing period by the repeated imprudences and exorbitant pretensions of the dynasty of Stuart. The least blameable of all the princes of this unfortunate family sadly expiated his faults, or rather his errors, with the loss of his throne and of his life. The whole conduct of the others, seemed to be intended only as a lesson to all future princes, to shew them how a crown is and must be irretrievably lost; it was reserved to the illustrious dynasty of Brunswick to teach them how a crown is for ever preserved, and a new dynasty firmly consolidated.

MEMORANDA

Of some principal cotemporary Events which occurred in the other States of Europe from the year 1689. to 1763.

A. D.

1689 A great confederacy of almost all the powers of Europe against France, principally promoted by king William.

Death of Pope Innocent XI. an inveterate enemy to Lewis XIV. who restores Avignon to his successor.

1690 Prince Waldeck, the Dutch general, is defeated at Fleurus by mareschal de Luxembourg. A complete victory obtained at Steafarde by mareschal de Catinat over the duke of Savoy.

1691 Death of Pope Alexander VIII. who left to his nephews the whole treasure he had amassed; thence originated the Papalists, that it would have been much more advantageous for the church to be his niece than his daughter.

Mareschal de Catinat takes possession of almost all the fortresses in Piémont, and reduces the duke of Savoy to the brink of ruin. He was relieved by prince Eugene, and took his revenge the next campaign by a dreadful devastation of Dauphiné.

1692 The duchy of Hanover made the ninth electorate in Germany. On the 19th of December, the duke Ernest Augustus was honoured with the investiture as elector of Brunswick, and created marshal of the empire.

Bayonets at the end of loaded muskets first used by the French against the confederates in the battle of Turin.

1693 The military order of St. Louis is instituted in France.

1696 The elector of Saxony is chosen king of Poland.

Peter the Czar of Muscovy, travels in disguise with his own ambassadors.

1697 Congress of Riswick. A general pacification.

1698 The first treaty of partition of the Spanish monarchy in case his Catholic Majesty should die without issue.

A. D.

- 1698 This treaty having raised great discontents, another took place to the same purpose, and was signed in London, February 21st, 1700.
- 1700 War rages in the north; Charles XII. king of Sweden, at the head of 8000 men, completely defeats at Nerva on the 28th or 30th of October, a Russian army of 80,000 men.
- 1701 Frederic I. elector of Brandenburg, son to Frederic William, is proclaimed king of Prussia, erected this year into a kingdom.
- 1708 Sardinia erected into a kingdom and given to the duke of Savoy.
- 1709 Peter the Great, Czar of Muscovy, defeats completely Charles XII. at Pultowa, destroys or takes prisoners his whole army, and compels him to fly; he reaches Oczakow and retires to Bender. The Swedes immediately retreat from Poland, and king Augustus re-enters his kingdom.
- 1710 The Danes are defeated at Elsinburgh by the Swedes. Wibourg in Finland surrenders to the Muscovites, June 25th; Riga, July 11th; the fortress of Dunne-monde, August 12th; and Revel, November 1st.
- 1711 Battle fought at Falczim on the river Bruth between the Turks and the Muscovites, where the Czar, completely surrounded by the enemy, owed his safety to the avarice of the Grand Vizier.
- 1713 The enemies of Charles XII. surreptitiously obtain from the Porte an order to expel him from Bender. On his refusal to comply with this order, they besiege his house. This prince never displayed greater courage, nor was in greater danger than on this occasion. The Porte disavowed this act of violence, but no longer assisted Charles. In the following year he crossed Germany incognito, and reached Stralsund, November 22nd, attended only by three of his officers. He was killed in 1718 at the siege of Fredericstadt by a cannon ball from the town as he visited the trenches.
- 1715 Lewis XIV. dies on the 1st of September in the 77th year of his age, after a long and generally glorious reign of 72 years, 3 months and 17 days.
- 1716 The Pretender marries the princess Sobieski, granddaughter of John Sobieski, late king of Poland. Prince Eugene at the head of the Imperialists, defeats

A.D.

completely the Turkish army at Petervarading, and compels them to evacuate the fortress of Temesvar and all their conquests in Austrian Hungary.

- 1717 The Czar Peter the Great, having travelled all over Europe, arrives at Paris, visits not only all the remarkable edifices and establishments, but all the renowned artists of any kind, and is agreeably surprised at the mint, on seeing a medal coined in his presence bearing his own effigy, with this motto, *Vires acquirit eundo*.

The island of Sardinia is conquered by a Spanish army of 8000 men.

Battle of Belgrade, where prince Eugene at the head of the Imperialists defeated again the Turkish army.

- 1718 The Mississippi scheme is at its height in France, but was quite sunk two years after, the national debt nearly doubled, and the whole nation involved in ruin and distress.

- 1720 Treaty of alliance concluded at Stockholm, through the mediation of England and France, between the king of Prussia and the queen of Sweden, by which the former engages not to assist the Czar Peter against her majesty. By another treaty concluded at the same time, Great Britain having promised to send a squadron in the Baltic against the Czar, these two treaties compelled Russia to make peace with Sweden.

A dreadful plague rages in Provence in the month of July, particularly in the flourishing towns of Marseilles and Avignon, where in less than one year it destroyed two thirds of the population.

- 1723 The duke of Orleans, regent of France, dies of an apoplectic fit, December 2nd, in the 50th year of his age. His regency was at an end a few months before, by Lewis XV. having attained fourteen years.

- 1724 In the beginning of this year Philip V. king of Spain, after a reign of 24 years, retires with his queen to the monastery of St. Ildefonso, and sends his solemn renunciation of the crown to his son Louis, prince of Asturias, whose reign lasted but a few months. He died August 31st, and his father was with great difficulty prevailed on to reascend the throne.

A severe edict is published in France against the protestants, prohibiting, under capital pains, the exercise of their religion, confiscating the properties of the re-

A. D.

lapse, and stamping with infamy the memory of those who should die without receiving the sacrament according to the rites of the catholic church. This law was mitigated a few months after in favour of the inhabitants of Alsace, whose privileges were founded on solemn treaties.

- 1725 Lewis XV. having married the Infanta of Spain, finds her so disagreeable that he sends her back to Madrid as the nuptials had not been consummated. The queen of Spain resenting this insult, dismissed mademoiselle de Beaujolois, one of the regent's daughters, who had been betrothed to her son, Don Carlos; and Lewis XV. married a daughter of the king of Poland, Stanislas Leczinski.

The court of Madrid secretly concludes at Vienna three treaties with the emperor, and one with the empire, stipulating an alliance offensive and defensive, settling the terms of a treaty of commerce, and the respective pretensions of the emperor to Spain, and of Spain to the duchy of Tuscany, Parma, and Placentia.

Spain returns to the emperor all the parts of the low countries that had been formerly possessed by the house of Austria, and the emperor promises to interpose his mediation to obtain from Great Britain the restitution of Minorca and Gibraltar to Spain.

- 1726 Militia first established in France.

- 1727 Warm religious or rather mystical dissensions in France respecting a book of morality published by Father Quesnel, condemned by the famous *Bull Unigenitus*, and defended by the Jansenists against the Molinists.

Inoculation first tried on criminals in England, and completely succeeds.

The dukedom of Russia is erected into an empire.

The Deacon Paris, a famous Jansenist, dies at Paris. His brethren loudly proclaim his sanctity, and even the pretended miracles wrought at his tomb; the churchyard where it lay daily attracts immense crowds of proselites, or rather maniacs, invoking the pseudo-saint with the most horrid convulsions, from which they pretend to be cured by the most dreadful blows which they receive with the liveliest enthusiasm, and apparently unhurt. The numbers and madness of those

A. D.

fanatics arose to such a degree, that the admittance to the church-yard was prohibited and prevented by surrounding it with a high wall.

1728. A double alliance takes place between Spain and Portugal by the marriage of the Portuguese Infanta, with the prince of Asturias, and of the prince of Brazil with the Spanish Infanta, formerly affianced to the French king.

Bombardment of Tripoly by a French squadron, which frightens so much those pirates, that they send a solemn deputation to Versailles to crave for pardon.

Lewis XV. was taken with the small pox on the 26th of October and recovered in a few days, but he died of the same malady 46 years after.

A conflagration at Copenhagen destroys 4500 houses.

- 1729 Victor Amadeus, king of Sardinia, resigns his crown to his son Charles Emanuel, retires to Chamberry, and marries the countess dowager of St. Sebastian, who declines the title of queen, but assumes that of marchioness of Somerive.

- 1730 The Grand Signor, Achmet III. is deposed at Constantinople in a rebellion excited by a man of the lowest class, actuated by a spirit of revenge against the Grand Vizier Couprouly, who was strangled by the rebels as well as the Kiaja and captain Pacha. Achmet was confined to the same prison from whence they brought his nephew Machmut and raised him to the throne after he had lived 27 years in confinement.

- 1731 France continues to be distracted by the religious disputes occasioned by the Bull Unigenitus thundered against Jansenism.

- 1732 Victor Amadeus, the abdicated king of Sardinia, having at the instigation of his wife engaged in some intrigues to reascend the throne; his son, the reigning king, ordered him to be seized and conveyed to the castle of Pont Carlier, where he died November 10th. The marchioness his wife, was conducted to Serva. The old king's confessor, his physician, and 48 persons of distinction, were imprisoned.

- 1733 The Dutch are threatened with a most dreadful calamity by worms of a very strange and dangerous nature. They were at first imperceptibly small, but after lodging themselves in the strongest planks or tim-

A. D.

ber under water, they grew sometimes to six inches in length, and so hollowed the wood that it became utterly unable to resist the force of the sea. Their destructive quality was first experienced in ships, but afterwards they fell upon the piles which protect Holland against the sea, and their progress was so alarming that it was feared they might get into the piles upon which Amsterdam is built, and undermine it. The estates of West Friesland ordered a fast to avert the visitation, and they were delivered from their fears by a hard frost which destroyed this pernicious vermin.

The Polish diet assembles for the election of a new king. Stanislas Sobieski, the father-in-law of the French king, is almost unanimously elected. But the election being hardly settled, the Russians, joined by the Dissidents, arrive at Warsaw. The diet retire with precipitation; Stanislas is obliged to take refuge at Dantzic with a few friends. The Russian general, supported by the forces of the emperor Charles VI. assembles a new diet at Prague, where the elector of Saxony is elected king of Poland and assumes the name of Augustus III. While his coronation is performing at Warsaw, the Russians and Imperialists besiege Dantzic. King Stanislas, fully aware that the garrison was unable to oppose a long resistance to such a powerful army, secretly makes his escape through the greatest dangers, and after many windings and fatigues under different disguises, he at last safely arrives in the dominions of the king of Prussia, where he receives all the honours due to his rank, and the sympathizing reverence due to his august misfortunes.

1754 Philippsburg is invested by the duke of Brunswick at the head of 60,000 men, while prince Eugene was waiting for the troops of the empire in the strong camp at Heilbron. The duke, in visiting the trenches, is killed by a cannon ball June 12th. The operations of the siege were continued with equal vigour and capacity by the marquis d'Asfeldt, and the place capitulated after an honourable defence.

The infant, Don Carlos, takes possession of the kingdom of Naples, reduces Gaeta, conquers Sicily, and is proclaimed king by the people.

A. D.

1734 The king's palace and archives at Madrid are destroyed by fire.

1735 The Imperialists are worsted by the French at the battles of Parma and Guastalla. The emperor being equally unable to cope with the French armies on the Rhine, a negociation is open between France and the house of Austria, and the preliminaries are signed without the knowledge of Spain, Sardinia, and the maritime powers, enacting, that France should restore all the conquests she had made in Germany; that the reversion of the dukedom of Tuscany should be vested in the duke of Lorraine; that Lorraine should be allotted to king Stanislaus, and united after his death to the crown of France; that the emperor should possess the Milanese, the Mantuan, and Parma; the king of Sardinia, the Vigevannasco, Tartara, and Novara; Don Carlos the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily, with the island of Elba and all the Spanish territories on the coast of Tuscany; and that France should guarantee the Pragmatic Sanction; an act which secured the indivisibility of the Imperial dominions.

1736 About this time a revolution took place in Corsica, the consequences of which paved the way to the union of that island to the crown of France. In the 12th century the Genoese had settled themselves in Corsica, and towards the middle of the 14th century they had subdued the whole island and exercised their sovereignty with so much tyranny, that at last the Corsicans threw off their yoke and published a kind of manifesto stating, that under the sixteen last Genoese commissioners, 26,000 assassinations had been perpetrated, and no less than 1700 in the two last years. The Genoese applied for assistance to the emperor, Charles VI. who sent them troops. They landed at Bastia, and very much annoyed the rebels. But these troops being soon after recalled, the mal-contented summoned a general assembly of the nation, who proclaimed that the island of Corsica was an independant republic. Hyacinthus Paoli and Gafforio, both men of great abilities, were declared generals of the Corsican commonwealth. The Genoese sent an army of 3000 men against them. The Corsicans having no regular troops, could not venture

A. D.

to oppose such a force inconsiderable as it was, and were very anxious about their means of defence, when Theodore Stein, a bold adventurer, landed at Aleria, in an English ship with 4000 muskets, some money and provisions, and was received with open arms by the insurgents. He was a German by birth, brother to a lady of the court of the duchess of Orleans, and stiled himself baron Neuhoff, from a small barony which had belonged to his family. He had the outward appearance of a great man. He possessed a low kind of cunning which he knew how to disguise, and its whole bent was to make him pass for a person of great consideration. His arts, however, were so successful, as to induce the Corsicans to proceed to electing him for their king, and he was solemnly crowned in an open plain by the name of Theodore, the first king of Corsica, and some pieces of small money with that inscription were actually coined. He raised and drilled a small army, defeated the Genoese, and undertook the siege of St. Fiorenzo. But the little money he had being exhausted, he prevailed upon his subjects to let him go to Holland, where he intended to form a company, who on his promise of granting them the exclusive trade with the island, would readily advance such sums as should be wanted by government. He accordingly set out for Holland after having appointed a regency to govern until his return. The Genoese, apprehending to be finally expelled from this island, applied for protection to Lewis XV. who condescended to send them a plan of pacification between them and the inhabitants, by count de Boissieux, with five regiments, to insure respect to his mission. It was on this occasion that the Corsicans, addressing to the French king the manifesto above mentioned, concluded their letter with these words, "If your peremptory orders compel us to submit to Genoa, let us, with this bitter cup drink his most Christian Majesty's health, and die." Count de Boissieux landed in Corsica with his troops on the 5th of February 1738, and soon after received a deputation from the insurgents, who expressed their respect for the king, and their disposition to acquiesce in any orders he should be pleased to give, convinced as they were that his majesty's intention was

A. D.

not to infringe their rights. In the mean time king Theodose was kept in confinement by his creditors at Amsterdum. However, with his possession of a patent for the whole trade of his kingdom, he so cunningly abused some Jews and merchants, as to persuade them, not only to pay his debts, but to supply him with a ship loaded with provisions, arms, and ammunition. But the French ships cruising off Corsica, not allowing him to attempt a landing, he was obliged to take refuge at Leghorn. Thence he came to London, where he spent a great part of his life in prison for debt, and died in the utmost distress. The Corsicans subdued, revolted again and again, and the Genoese could never obtain a peaceable possession of the island, and yielded it to France in 1768.

Rapture between the Turks and the Czars, who reduces the city of Asoph. on the Black Sea, and overruns the greatest part of Crim-Tartary. A congress to compromise their differences proving ineffectual, the emperor of Germany declares war against the Turks, and conducts the operations of the campaign with the Russians, who besiege and take Oczakow. This war continued with various successes, principally in favour of Russia, until the year 1739, when peace was concluded.

1730 The famous Thomas Kouli Khan usurps the throne of Persia, conquers the Mogul empire, and returns with an immense booty, valued at 251,000,000*l.* sterling.

1740 Death of Charles VI. the last emperor of the august family of Austria, which ended with him after having filled the Imperial throne during three centuries without interruption. The elector of Bavaria, the kings of Spain and Poland, respectively urged their claims to his succession, while the king of Prussia pretended to have an indisputable right to some principalities in Silesia. The arch-duchess Maria Theresa, eldest daughter to the late emperor, and called by the Pragmatic Sanction of 1713 to his whole succession, confuted all these opposite pretensions by the most plausible arguments. This momentous conflict brought on a bloody war, in which the greatest part of Europe was involved, and its ultimate issue answered to the magnanimity and heroism displayed by the illustrious Maria Theresa. Her right

A. D.

to the whole succession of her father was acknowledged and confirmed by the treaties of Breslau, Dresden, and Aix-la-Chapelle. The king of Prussia obtained only the Lower Silesia, the county of Glatz, and the Upper Silesia to the river Oppa, where the house of Austria retained the principality of Teschen, and the greatest part of those of Jägerndorf and Troppau. The king of Spain obtained the duchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guastalla for himself and his male issue in full sovereignty. After the death of the new emperor, Charles VII. elector of Bavaria, the Germans called to the Imperial throne the grand duke of Tuscany, Francis I. of Lorraine, husband of the queen of Hungary, Maria Theresa, and founder to the new house of Austria.

1741 Revolution in Russia. The nation being for some time discontented with the government, the Russian grandees and generals turned their eyes upon princess Elizabeth Petrunna, a daughter of Peter the Great, and the darling of the empire. She put herself at the head of 1000 men, and in the night of the 5th of December entered the winter-palace, where the infant czar and the regent his mother resided; she desired them to rise and quit the palace, adding that their persons were safe; and the princess regent, Ann of Mecklenburgh, her consort and children, were sent under a strong guard to Riga, the capital of Livonia. At the same time four grandees, attached to them, were seized with their papers, and conveyed to a fortress on the Neva. Early in the morning the senate assembling declared all that had passed since the reign of Peter II. to be usurpation, and that the Imperial dignity belonged to the princess Elizabeth. She was immediately proclaimed empress of Russia, and recognized by the army in Finland. She declared her nephew, the prince of Holstein-Gothorp, her successor, by the title of Grand Prince of all the Russias.

1743 Peace concluded at Abo between Russia and Sweden. The duke of Holstein-Utm, uncle to the grand prince of all the Russias, is chosen as next heir to the crown of Sweden.

1745 The king of Sardinia is almost stripped of all his dominions by the Spanish and French armies. The infant Don Philip makes himself master of Aquì, Tortona, Parma, Placentia, and, forcing the passage of the Te-

A. D.

naro, compels his Sardinian majesty to take shelter on the other side of the Po. Then Pavia is taken by scalade, the city of Milan surrenders, all Piedmont on both sides the Po, as far as Turin, and even that capital are threatened with a siege.

Great progress of the king of Prussia in the conquest of Silesia, where the campaign began in January. In the following month a body of 12,000 Austrians was completely defeated, and the town of Ratibor taken by assault by the Prussian general Lehwald. His Prussian majesty entered Silesia in May at the head of 70,000 men, attacked prince Charles of Lorraine on the 4th of June, near Friedberg, and compelled him to retire with the loss of 12,000 men and a great number of standards and artillery. The Austrians resolved to hazard another engagement on the 30th of September, but they met with such a warm reception, that notwithstanding their repeated efforts during four hours, they were repulsed, leaving 5000 killed on the spot, besides 2000 prisoners and 20 pieces of cannon. Lewis XV, after the battle of Fontenoy, had sent one of his aid-de-camps to acquaint his ally, Frederic II. with this important news. The aid-de-camp arrived just in time to witness the battle of Friedberg, and his Prussian majesty returned a remarkable laconic answer to the French king in these words: "I have paid on sight at Friedberg your bill of exchange dated from Fontenoy."

- 1746 The treaty of Dresden enables the queen of Hungary to send an army of above 30,000 men in Italy to join the king of Sardinia, who had augmented his forces to 36,000 men, and soon after this junction the French and Spaniards are compelled to abandon Piedmont and Milanese. Don Philip is worsted at Codogno, and afterwards at Porto-fraddo. The Austrians under prince Lichtenstein take Genoa, and lay on that city a contribution of 24,000,000 livres, to be paid in three terms, the farthest of which was a fortnight. All the money of the treasury and the bank being exhausted by the two first instalments, the senate represent the impossibility of paying the last, and solicit to be dispensed with it, but instead of granting their demands, the prince imposes upon the citizens a tax of eight millions

A. D.

more for the maintenance of the troops left in the town to the number of 16,000 men, while the rest of the combined army pushed the war, and pursued the French and Spaniards into Provence. The Genoese, reduced to despair, attempt a last effort for the recovery of their liberty; they take arms in secret, call the peasants to their assistance, seize several important posts of the city, surprise some battalions of Austrians, cut them to pieces, and drive out the garrison with great slaughter. In the mean time Lewis XV. to whom they had applied for assistance, sent them supplies, engineers, and the duke of Boufflers, who acted as ambassador and commander in chief. The fortifications were put with great activity in a state of defence, so that when the Austrian army came next year and attempted a new siege, the resistance of the town enabled mareschal de Belleisle, who was driving the Austrian and Sardinian forces out of Provence, to arrive in time to compel the besiegers to abandon their enterprise.

Electric shock is discovered.

The towns of Lima and Callao, in Peru, are swallowed up by an earthquake, October 29.

1747 Thamas Kouli Khan is killed in a seditious commotion excited by his nephew, who is proclaimed king of Persia.

1749 The title of Most Faithful Majesty is given by the Pope to the king of Portugal.

New contentions in France between the clergy and the parliaments, about Jansenism and the Bull Unigenitus.

1751 The powerful stiptic virtues of the agaric of oak is discovered by one Brassart, a French surgeon. Lewis XV. buys the secret from him, and orders it to be published.

1752 The king of Portugal obtains from the pope the abolition of the annual procession, called the Auto-da-fe, the most horrid monstrosity that superstition and fanaticism had ever produced.

The king of Prussia encourages with royal bounties a great number of industrious emigrants to settle in Pomerania. Above sixty new villages arise amidst a barren waste, and every part of the country exhibits marks of successful cultivation.

A. D.

- 1753 The disturbances about Jansenism grow in France to the highest degree, many ecclesiastics are apprehended for having refused to administer the sacraments to persons in extremity who had not subscribed the Bull Unigenitus; the breach between the clergy and parliament widens more and more every day. The parliament of Paris repeatedly disobeying the king's orders on this occasion, *Lettres de Cachet* are issued, banishing all the members to different parts of the kingdom; four of them are confined in strong castles; a royal chamber is established for the prosecution of civil and criminal law suits pending in the parliament.
- 1754 The parliament of Paris is recalled; they return in triumph amidst the acclamations of the people; the king enjoins a general silence on these scandalous quarrels; some prelates, who persevered in countenancing the priests who refused the sacraments, are banished.
- 1756 A conspiracy for altering the form of the government of Sweden by the overthrow of the senate, is discovered June 23, a few hours previous to its intended execution; nine conspirators of the first rank are arrested and beheaded.
- 1757 On the 5th of January, as the French king was stepping into his carriage he was stabbed, but not dangerously wounded, by one Robert Francis Damien, a servant by profession, who had already discovered great dispositions to insanity, and had no accomplices. His execution was attended, however, with all the excruciating tortures enacted by the French laws against regicides, without any distinction respecting insanity, which either real or counterfeited has ever been and ever will be generally the case for regicides, except in times of intestine commotions and civil wars, when the minds of the people, distracted by religious or political fanaticism, are unconsciously raised to a state of fermentation bordering on frenzy.
- Identity of electric fire and lightning discovered by Dr. Franklin, who thereupon invents a method of securing buildings from thunder storms by metallic conductors.
- The French take possession in the name of the empress queen of several towns in the Low Countries, belonging to the king of Prussia, who, in his turn, gains

A.D.

a complete victory over the Austrians near Prague, and besieged that town; but being defeated at Kolin by count Daun, he raises the siege of Prague and quits Bohemia. The French enter the Prussian dominions, where they commit great disorders, while the Prussian ports in the Baltic are blocked up by a Russian fleet. Berlin is laid under contribution by the Austrians, and Leipzig subjected to military execution by the king of Prussia, who soon after won the famous battle of Rossbach, over the French and Imperialists, who lost 3000 killed on the field of battle, 8000 taken prisoners, and 64 pieces of cannon, with a great many standards and colours, November 5. Schweidnitz taken by the Austrians; is soon re-taken, as well as Breslau, by the king of Prussia, who becomes master of all Silesia.

- 1758 On the 3d day of September the king of Portugal, coming from the country in the evening, in a carriage attended by two of his domestics, was attacked by two men on horseback, armed with musketoons, one of whom fired his piece at the coachman without wounding him; the man, terrified however, both on his own account and that of his royal master, drove his mules at full speed; the assassins galloping after him as fast as they could, discharged their pieces at random through the back of the carriage. The king's right arm was much dilacerated from the shoulder to the elbow, and as the blood was flowing apace, he ordered the coachman to return to the place from whence he came, and where his principal surgeon resided. His majesty's wounds were immediately dressed. In the mean time all possible measures were taken to discover the accomplices of this horrid plot, and it soon appeared that it had been formed by persons of the highest rank and influence. The duke de Aveiro, the marquis de Tavora, his two sons and his son-in-law, the count de Attouqui, the marquis de Alloria, together with their wives, children, and whole families, were arrested immediately after the assassination, as principals in the design, and many other accomplices, including some Jesuits, were apprehended in the sequel. After a long examination, in which the strongest evidences were principally resulting from confessions obtained by the rack, nine of the persons arrested, including one of the assassins, were

VOL. IV.

N N

A. D.

convicted, condemned, and executed. The duke of Aveiro had conceived a personal hatred to the king, who had disappointed him in a projected match for his son. The resentment of the marchioness of Tavora had been inflamed by the repeated repulses she had received when she solicited the title of duke for her husband. Many consultations were held by the conspirators at the colleges of the Jesuits. All their estates in the kingdom were sequestered, and the individuals reduced to a very scanty allowance. In the mean time a considerable number of them were embarked for Italy; and it was resolved that no Jesuits should hereafter reside within the kingdom.

- 1759 The king of Spain, deeply affected with the loss of his queen, who was lately dead, immures himself in his palace of Villa Viciosa, renouncing all company, neglecting all business, nor allowing his beard to be shaved, and abstaining almost entirely from food and rest, until, by this immoderate indulgence in his grief, he became quite emaciated, and contracts a slow fever, which puts an end to his life; he is succeeded by his brother Charles III.

Orders are issued by the French government to stop all payments of the public debt, and inviting all classes of the nation to send their plate to the Mint to be coined.

- 1760 Treaty concluded at Turin between France and Sardinia, fixing their respective limits from Geneva to the mouth of the river Var.

The penny-post existing in London from the year 1683, is established at Paris June 9.

- 1761 Count Lally arrives in England as a prisoner. On his being informed that his enemies had succeeded in raising, particularly at Paris, a general outcry against him by the most odious calumnies, he obtains from the government a permission to go to France. On his arrival he presents himself to the duke of Choiseul, then minister of the war department: "I come," said he, "and bring here my head and my innocence." He solicits as a favour to be brought to his trial, and confined in that case in the Bastille, as a prisoner of state. His demands were complied with, but instead of being tried by a court-martial, or a council of war, he was prosecuted by the king's attorney-general before the parlia-

A. D.

ment of Paris, composed of magistrates, who, however respectable they might be, knew nothing, or very little of military laws and duties. After a trial of more than five years, they declared him guilty of having betrayed the king's interests, as well as those of the state and the East-India Company, and condemned him to death. This arrest was solemnly reversed and annulled about twelve years after by the king's privy council, on the application of count Lally Tolendal, his son, who, warmed by filial piety, honourably displayed on this occasion the most conspicuous talents and eloquence. As I had the honour of being a member of the king's council at that time, and even one of the reporters in this affair, I am enabled to affirm, that the opinion of that august tribunal was, that general Lally died rather a victim of strong prejudices and unrelenting animosities excited by his rash and violent temper, than guilty of any real act of treason.

- 1762 The parliament of Paris, after an examination of the constitution and doctrine of the Jesuits, dissolve that religious society; their colleges, though generally reckoned the best in France, are suppressed, as well as all their convents; all their estates and effects are sequestered, and they are expelled the kingdom, unless they take the oath prescribed by the parliament.

APPENDIX.

The most important occurrences belonging to this Period are proved by the testimony of the following Historians and Writers.

Tindal, President Henault, Plessel;	Memoirs of Sir Robert Walpole, from
corresponding years.	1676 to 1745.
Macpherson's History.	Memoires du Duc de Berwick, du
Original State Papers of Stuart and	Marquis de Torcy, de la Cour de
Hanover, from 1688 to 1715, published by Macpherson.	France, par Madame de la Fayette, passim.
Appendix to Sir John Dalrymple's	Blackstone, De Lolme, passim.
Memoirs, from the 27th of February, 1669, to the 1st of September, 1696.	Carte, Biographia Britannica, passim.
Lord Bolingbroke's Letters, Correspondence, and State Papers, from October 1710, to August 1714.	State Trials, Journals, Dodley's Annual Register, passim.
	Harleian Manuscripts, and Royal Letters, (British Museum), passim.

*A List of the principal Learned or Illustrious Men
who lived during that Period, pointing out the
Year of their Death.*

Nath. Lee 1690	Sir Rob. Wal-	Baluse 1706	Leibnitz 1716
Hon. Robert	pole 1745	Bayle 1706	Malebranche 1715
Boyle 1691	Colin M'Lau-	Boerhave 1738	Massillon 1743
Tillotson, Arch-	rin 1746	Boileau Des-	Montesquieu 1755
bish. Cant. 1694	Isaac Thomson 1748	preaux 1711	Montfaucon 1741
Sir W. Temple 1697	Isaac Watts 1748	Bossuet 1704	Nicole 1695
John Dryden 1701	Lord Boling-	Bourdaloue 1704	Nollet 1770
John Locke 1704	broke 1751	La Bruyere 1696	Olivet 1768
G. Farquhar 1707	Rd. W. Whis-	Bussy Rabu-	Piron 1773
John Philips 1708	ton 1752	tin 1693	Nericault Des-
Shaftesbury 1713	Bishop Berk-	Chaulieu 1720	touches 1754
Sir W. Dave-	ley 1753	Cornille 1709	Pluche 1761
nant 1714	Rich. Mead 1754	(Thomas) 1709	Polignac, car. 1741
Burnet, bish. 1714	Hen. Fielding 1754	Crebillon 1762	Poree 1741
Rowe 1718	Colly Cibber 1757	Dacier, Ma-	Puffendorf 1694
John Flam-	Handel 1759	dame 1720	Racine 1699
stead 1719	Dr. Leland 1761	Domat 1699	Racine, Louis 1764
Dr. Keil 1719	Tho. Sherlock,	Dubos 1742	Renard 1709
Addison 1719	bishop of	D'Aqueseau,	Restaut 1764
Math. Prior 1721	London 1761	Chanc. 1751	Rollin 1741
Bishop Atter-	Sam. Richard-	Ducerceau 1730	Rousseau, JB. 1741
bury 1723	son 1761	Deshoulieres 1694	Rousseau, Jean
Christ. Wren 1723	Edw. Young 1765	Fenelon 1715	Jaques 1778
John Trench-	Sterne 1768	Flechier 1710	Le Sage 1747
ard 1723	Akenside 1770	Fontenelle 1757	Savigne 1696
W. Wollarton 1724	Smollet 1770	Giannone 1748	St. Aulaire 1742
John Van-	Earl of Ches-	Brumoy 1742	St. Evremont 1703
burgh 1726	terfield 1773	Calmet 1757	St. Foix 1776
Isaac Newton 1727	Lord Lyttle-	Greecourt 1743	St. Palays 1781
Congreve 1729	ton 1773	Greasct 1777	Terrasson 1750
Sam. Clarke 1729	Goldsmith 1774	Hamilton,	Vanieres 1739
Rich. Steele 1729	Hume 1776	Ant 1720	Vely 1759
John Gay 1732	Samuel Foote 1777	Helvetius 1771	Vertot 1735
John Arbuth-	Garrick 1779	Henault, Pt. 1770	Villaret 1766
not 1734	W. Warbur-	Lafontaine 1695	Voisenon 1775
Bish. Hare 1740	ton 1779	Lachaussee 1754	Voltaire 1778
Dr. Bentley 1742	Blackstone 1780	La Loubere 1729	Vauvenargues
Edm. Halley 1742	Dr. W. Hunter 1783	La Grange,	1747
Alex. Pope 1744	Dr. Samuel	chancel. 1758	
Dean Swift 1745	Johnson 1784		

A List of the Cotemporary Princes, with the Date of their Death.

<i>Popes.</i>	<i>Kings of France.</i>	Frederic, Landgrave of Hesse Cassel, her husband, associated to the throne 1751	Charles Emmanuel III.
Alexan. VIII 1691	Lewis XIV 1715		
Innocentius XII 1700	Lewis XV		
Clement XI 1721	<i>Kings of Spain.</i>	Adolphus Frederic	<i>Csars of Russia.</i>
Innocentius XIII 1724	Charles II 1700		Iwan Alexiowits 1696
Benedict XIII 1730	Philip V 1746		Peter I, Alexiowitz 1625
Clement XII 1740	Ferdinand VI 1759		Catherine Alexiowna Czarina 1727
Benedict XIV 1758	Charles III	<i>Kings of Poland.</i>	Peter II, Alexiowitz 1730
Clement XIII		John Sobiesky 1696	Anne Iwanowna Czarina 1740
<i>Turkish Emperors.</i>	<i>Kings of Portugal.</i>	Frederic Augustus, Elector of Saxony 1733	John of Brunswick-Bevern, dethroned in 1741
Soliman III 1691	Peter II 1706	Stanislaus Leczinski	Elizabeth Petrowna 1762
Achmet III. deposed in 1730	John V 1750		Peter III, dethroned in 1762
Mahomet V 1754		<i>Kings of Prussia.</i>	Catherine Alexiowna II. widow of Peter III
Osman III 1757	<i>Kings of Denmark.</i>	Frederic III 1713	
Abdul-Hamet	Christian V 1699	Frederic Wm. 1740	
<i>Emperors of Germany.</i>	Frederic IV 1730	Charles Frederic II	
Leopold I 1705	Christian VI 1746		
Joseph I 1711	Frederic V	<i>Kings of Sardinia.</i>	
Charles VI 1740	<i>Kings of Sweden.</i>	Victor Amadeus, resigns in 1713	
Charles VII 1745	Charles XI 1697		
Francis I, of Lorraine.	Charles XII 1718		
	Ulrique Eleanor, Queen 1741		

A List of the Lord Chancellors, Chief Justices of the King's Bench, Attorney Generals, and Solicitors General of England from the Revolution, pointing out the year when they were made.

<i>Lord Chancellors.</i>	William Rawlinson <i>ibid.</i>	Lord Harcourt 1713	Lord King 1725
The Great Seal is put in commission in 1689	Lord Somers 1692	Lord Cowper again 1714	Lord Talbot 1733
Sir John Maynard 1689	Sir Nathaniel Wright 1700	Lord Parker, earl of Macclesfield 1718	Philip Yorke, earl of Hardwicke 1737
Anthony Kecke <i>ibid.</i>	Lord Cowper 1705		Lord Henley, earl of Northampton 1761
	In commission 1710		

<i>Chief Justices.</i>			
Sir John Holt	1689	Sir J ^s . Montague	1708
Sir Tho. Parker	1710	Sir Simon Har-	
Sir John Pratt	1718	court again,	
Sir Rt. Raymond	1724	September 18	1710
Sir Philip Yorke	1733	Sir Edward Nor-	
Sir W. Lee	1737	they again, Oc-	
Sir Dudley Ryder	1754	tober 19	1710
W Murray, lord		Nich. Lechmere	1717
Manafeld	1756	Sir Rt. Raymond	1720
<i>Attorneys General.</i>		Sir Philip Yorke	1743
Sir George Treby	1689	Sir John Willes	1733
Sir John Somers	1692	Sir Dudley Ryder	1736
Edward Ward	1693	Hon. W. Murray	1754
Sir Tho. Trevor	1695	Sir Rt. Henley	1756
Edward Northey	1701	Sir Charles Pratt	1757
Sir Simon Har-		Hon. Ch. Yorke	1762
court	1707	<i>Solicitors General.</i>	
		John Somers	1689
		Thomas Trevor	1698
		John Hawles	1695
		Simon Harcourt	1702
		Sir J ^s . Montague	1707
		Robert Eyre	1708
		Sir Rt. Raymond	1710
		Nich. Lechmere	1741
		John Fortescue	1715
		Sir W. Thompson	1716
		Sir Philip Yorke	1719
		Sir Clem. Weary	1723
		Sir Ch. Talbot	1726
		Dudley Ryder	1733
		John Strange	1736
		Hon Wm Murray	1742
		Sir Rich. Lloyd	1745
		Hon. Ch. Yorke	1756
		Fletcher Norton	1761

*A List of the Prime Ministers and Administration
from the Revolution to the year 1763.*

King William III. and Mary.

1688 Sir John, afterwards lord So-	1695 The earl of Sunderland, &c. &c.
mers, lord Godolphin, after-	1697 Charles Montague, afterwards
wards duke of Leeds, marquis	earl of Halifax, earl of Pem-
of Halifax, earl of Pembroke,	broke, viscount Lonsdale, earl
earl, afterwards duke of Shrews-	of Orford, earl of Jersey, earl of
bury, earl of Nottingham, earl	Mulgrave, afterwards duke of
of Devonshire, earl of Bedford.	Buckingham.

Queen Anne.

1697 Lord Godolphin, lord Cowper,	1710 Robert Harley, afterwards earl
Robert Harley, Esq. earl of	of Oxford, earl of Rochester,
Pembroke, duke of Bucking-	lord Dartmouth, St. John, Esq.
ham.	afterwards viscount Boling-
1705 Duke of Marlborough.	broke, Simon, Esq. afterwards
1707 Earl of Godolphin, lord Cow-	lord Harcourt.
per, earl of Sunderland, earl of	Charles duke of Shrewsbury,
Pembroke, duke of Marlbo-	&c. &c.
rough, John Holles, duke of	
Newcastle.	

George I.

1714 Lord Cowper, duke of Shrews-	hope, first lord of the treasury,
bury, Charles, earl of Halifax,	chancellor, and under treasurer
earl of Nottingham, marquis of	of the exchequer.
Wharton, earl of Orford, duke	1718 Charles, earl of Sunderland,
of Marlborough, viscount Town-	&c. &c.
shend, James Stanhope, Esq.	1721 Robert Walpole, afterwards
1715 Robert Walpole, first lord of	earl of Orford, first lord of the
the treasury, chancellor, and un-	treasury, chancellor and under
der treasurer of the exchequer.	treasurer of the exchequer, K. B.
1717 James, afterwards earl Stan-	and K. G.

George II. 1727.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1742 Lord Carteret, lord Wilming-
ton, lord Bath, M. Sandys, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.</p> <p>1743 Hon. Henry Pelham, first lord
of the treasury and chancellor
of the exchequer, lord Carteret,
earl of Harrington, duke of
Newcastle.</p> <p>1746 Mr. Pelham, lord of Chester-
field, duke of Bedford, &c. &c.</p> <p>1754 Duke of Newcastle, sir Tho-</p> | <p>mas Robinson, Rt. Hon. Henry
Fox, &c. &c. lord Anson.</p> <p>1756 Duke of Devonshire, William
Pitt, Esq. earl Temple, Hon.
Hen. Bilson Legge, dismissed in
April 1757 and restored the
same year.</p> <p>1757 Right Hon. William Pitt, M.
Legge, chancellor of the exche-
quer, earl Temple, duke of
Newcastle, &c. &c.</p> |
|--|--|

George III.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1757 Earl of Bute, secretary of state,
vice earl of Holderness, earl of
Egremont, secretary of state,
vice Mr. Pitt, duke of Bedford,
vice lord Temple.</p> <p>1762 Earl of Bute first minister,</p> | <p>Hon. George Granville, sir Fran-
cis Dashwood, chancellor of the
exchequer, earls of Egremont,
Halifax, duke of Bedford, &c.
&c.</p> |
|---|---|

The Order of Precedency.

The King	Earls Younger Sons
The Princes of the Blood	Barons Eldest Sons
The Archbishop of Canterbury	Privy Counsellors, not Peers
The Lord High Chancellor	Knights of the Garter, not Peers
The Archbishop of York	Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench
The Lord Treasurer of England	Master of the Rolls
The Lord President of the Council	Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas
The Lord Privy Seal	Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer
Dukes	Puisné Judges and Barons
The Eldest Sons of Dukes of the Blood Royal	Masters in Chancery
Marquisses	Viscounts Younger Sons
Dukes Eldest Sons	Barons Younger Sons
Earls	Baronets
Marquisses Eldest Sons	Knights of the Bath
Dukes Younger Sons	Knights Bachelors
Viscounts	Colonels
Earls Eldest Sons	Serjeants at Law
Marquisses Younger Sons	Doctors Graduate
Bishops	Esquires
Barons	Gentlemen bearing Coat Armour
Speaker of the House of Commons	
Viscounts Eldest Sons	

The Ladies take place according to the degree of quality of their husbands.

INDEX.

This Index does not refer to the pages, but to the years, both for the History of Great Britain and the cotemporary occurrences in the Appendix; the references to the General Observations, which conclude the eighth and ninth Periods, are pointed out by the letters G. O. 8. or 9.

Abbreviations.—The two first figures of the year are not repeated in the same article unless the century changes. King, K.; Prince, P.; Duke, D.; Marquis, M.; Earl, E.; Baron, B.; Lord, L.; Archduke, Archd.; Archbishop, Archb.; Bishop, Bish.; General, Gen.; Admiral, Adm.; Ambassador, Amb.

ABBOT, Rt. Hon. C. Speaker of the House of Commons, 1753

Abdication of Christina, Queen of Sweden, 1654

Abercorn

Abercrombie, Gen. 1758

Abingdon, E. of, 1714

Abjuration, oath of, 1660—the act of, burnt by the hangman, 61—abjuration oath taken, 1702

Addison, sec. of state, 1717

Agaric of Oak, its styptic virtues discovered, 1751

Agbrim, 1691

Aiguillon, D. d', defeats the English at St. Cast, 1758

Ailsbury-men, 1705

Alislabie, ch. of the exchequer, 1720—obliged to resign his office, expelled the house of commons, and apprehended, 21

Aix-la-Chapelle, treaty of, 1608—a congress at, 1747—preliminaries signed at, 48

peace concluded, conditions of the treaty, *ib.*

Albemarle, Monk, created D. of, 1660-66—his death, 1670—E. of, 1712—amb. in France, 54, 62

Alberoni, card. 1718-19

Alcantara, surrenders to Lord Galway, 1706

Algiers, war declared against, 1669—bombardment, 1682

Alicant, 1691, 1709

Alliances, triple, between England, Holland, and Sweden, 1668-70—with Holland, 1678—with Spain, 80—offensive and defensive, against France, between the Emperor and the Dutch, 89—England accedes to it, *ib.*—renewed with the United Provinces, 1716—quadruple, between the Emperor, France, England, and Holland, 18—a defensive, between England and France, 25—the States Gen. and the

- K. of Sweden accede to it, 26
—a quadruple, is concluded at Warsaw, between the queen of Hungary, the States Gen. the Ks. of Great Britain and Poland, 45—between the Czar Peter III. and the K. of Prussia, 62
- Ali-kan* deposes the Suba of Bengal, and assumes that vice-royalty, 1757
- Almanza*, the battle of, 1707
- Almonara*, the battle of, 1710
- Ambassadors*, the French and Dutch, vainly interpose in the K.'s behalf. 1649—a quarrel between the French and Spanish, for precedence, 61—the French amb. arrives to mediate a peace between England and the Dutch, 1665
- America*, misfortunes in, 1757
- Amberst*, major-gen. 1759-60
- Anandale*, E. 1690
- Anglesey*, E. of, 1714
- Anne*, princess, 2d daughter of the D. of York, (James II.) marries the P. of Denmark, 1683, 88, 89, 92, 95
- Annesley*, created E. of Anglesey, 1660
- Annuities*, all the funds for them reduced into one, 1751
- Anson*, adm. 1740—returns from his voyage of three years around the globe, 44, 47
- Antinomians*, 1649
- Antiquarians* of London, charter granted to the society of the, 1751
- Arbitrary Imprisonments*, a vote against, 1628
- Argyle*, E. of, 1639, 48, 50—tried and executed, 61, 81, 85, 90, 1703, 05, 13, 14, 40
- Arlington*, 1670, 74
- Armedale*, M. of, 1703
- Arminians*, 1629
- Army*, new modelled by the independent party, 1644—oppose the parliament, 47—carries off the king from Holmby Castle—insist that 11 members of parliament should be expelled and imprisoned, and that all new levies should be stopped, 47—advances towards Hounslow, and removes the king to Hampton-Court, march in triumph through the city, and reduce the parliament to submission, *ib.*—send a remonstrance to the parliament, insisting on the king being brought to his trial, 48—convey the king to Hurst Castle, surround the parliament, and allow only sixty members to enter the house of commons, *ib.*—disbanded, 60, 80
- Arran*, E. of, 1689
- Arundel*, E. of, 1626, 39, 43
- Asfeldt*, chevalier d', 1709
- Asbburnham*, 1647
- Asbley Cooper*, Lord, afterwards E. of Shaftesbury and chancellor, 1660, 70, 73. See *Shaftesbury*
- Assiento Treaty*, 1714, 38, 39
- Assurance Companies*, the Royal and London, erected 1720
- Association Bill*, 1680, 96
- Athlone*, 1691
- Atbol*, M. of, 1703
- Attainder*, an act of, is passed against the P. of Wales (the pretender), 1702
- Attornies*, their number, 1731
- Auverkerque*, Dutch gen. 1706
- Baden*, P. Lewis of, 1704, 07
- Balcarras*, 1689
- Baillie*, 1683
- Balmorimo*, Lord, sentenced to death, 1746
- Bank of England*, 1694—circulates a large sum of exchequer

- bills for the government, *ib.*
 —Bank Act, 1717—circulates South-Sea Company's bonds, 20
Barcelona, 1691, 97
Barisb, Margrave of, 1707
Barillon, 1677, 85, 88
Barrier in Flanders for the Dutch, 1712—settled by a treaty, 13
Bath, E. of, 1688
Battles, of Newbury, lost by the royalists, 1644—of Naseby, lost by the royalists, 45—of Worcester, won by Cromwell against Charles II. *ib.*—sea fighting, which lasted four days, between the English and the Dutch, June 1, 66—another, which lasted two days, 25th July, *ib.*—of Prague, 1620—at Newton Butler in Ireland, 1689—of the Boyne, 90—at Aghrim, 91—at Neerwinden, 93—at Ramilli, 1706—at Almanza, 97—at Malplaquet, 99—at Fontenoy, 45—at Preston-Pans, *ib.*—at Culoden, 46—at Lawtell, 47—at Rosbach, 57—at Crevelt, 58—at Minden, 59
Bayonets first used, 1692
Bavaria, D. of, 1702—progress of the Elector in Germany, 1703, 94, 98, 12
Beaumont, Ch. E. of Burford, 1684
Bedford, Russell E. of, 1688—D. of, 1702—Min. Plenip. sent to France, 62
Belleisle, the isle of, the French fleet completely defeated near, 1759—taken by the English, 61
 —, Mareschal de, plan of, 1759
Bembow, Commodore, 1693, 1702
Bentinck, rewarded with the dignity of E. of Portland, 1689
Bergen-op-Zoom, taken by the French, 1747
Berkeley, E. of, 1714
Bernsdorf, 1717
Berlin, laid under contribution, 1757
Berwick, James Fitz-James, D. of, 1687, 88, 96, 1704, 97, 10, 19
Bezons, Mareschal de, 1713
Bishops, thirteen, accused of high-treason, 1641—nine restored to their sees, 60—seven present a petition to be dispensed with the distributing and reading, after divine service, the declaration of the liberty of conscience; they are committed to the Tower, and prosecuted, 89, 91
Blackfriars-Bridge 1760
Blake, Adm. 1652, 53, 56
Blenheim, 1704
Bohemia, conquered by the Elector of Bavaria, who is proclaimed king at Prague, 1741
Bolingbroke, 1712, 13, 14, 15—impeached, *ib.*—pardoned, 23, 25, 30, 37, 39—his intrigues to excite a new misunderstanding between the king and the P. of Wales, 48
Bolton, D. of, 1714, 34
Booth, Sir George, 1659-60
Boscawen, Adm. 1747, 55, 58, 59
Bothmar, B. de, 1711-12, 17
Bouchain, 1676, 1712
Boufflers, Mareschal de, 1695, 97, 1702, 98, 99
Bourdeaux, French Amb. makes his public entry in London, 1654
Bourg-du, Count, 1709
Boyne river, battle of the, 1650
Braddock, Gen. defeated and mortally wounded, 1755

- Bradsbaw*, president of the high court of justice in the king's trial, 1649-60
- Braidalbin*, E. of, 1690
- Brandenburg*, elector of, 1675
- Brandon*, L. 1683
- Breda*, Charles II. removes to, 1660—negociations for peace, 1667
- Bremen and Verden*, 1715-16, 19
- Bret*, 1692, 94
- Bribery*, 1680—in the elections, 1701—in the treaty of commerce with Spain, 14—bill for preventing bribery in the elections, 29
- Bristol*, surrender of, to the Royalists, 1643—to Fairfax, 45
- Bristol*, E. of, 1626—enters a charge of treason against Clarendon, 63—Amb. in Spain, 1763
- Britain*, Great, the name given to the United Kingdom of England and Scotland, 1707
- Broad-bottom Scheme*, ministry, 1744
- Broad-wheel waggon* bill passed, 1753
- Broglio*, mareschal de, 1760-61
- Bruges*, 1712
- Brunswick*, P. Henry of, 1761
- Brussels*, 1691, 95
- Buckingham*, D. of, his influence over Charles I. generally hated and why, 1625—impeached, 26—anecdote of his pretended amours with the queen of France, 27—his expedition to Larochelle, 28—assassinated by one Felton, *ib.*—D. of, 50-51, 70, 74, 77, 1710, 14
- Buckinghamshire*, D. of, 1714
- Buckingham-house*, the king and queen take their residence at, 1762
- Burgoyne*, Brig. Gen. 1762
- Burlington*, E. of, 1734
- Busby*, French Amb. 1739, 55
—Brig. Gen. taken prisoner, 60, 61
- Buys*, 1711
- Byng*, Adm. 1718-19—sent to protect Minorca, 56—recalled and sent home in arrest, *ib.*—brought to his trial, *ib.*—condemned to death and executed, 57
- Cabal*, an appellation given to a secret council of Charles II. 1670-74
- Cadiz*, 1693, 1702
- Cadogan*, Gen. 1714-17
- Caermarthen*, M. of, 1693, now duke of Leeds, 95
- Calais*, 1694, bombardment of, 96
- Calcutta* invested and taken by the Suba of Bengal, 1756—English prisoners suffocated in the *Black-Prison Hole*, *ib.*
- Calendar*, altered according to the Gregorian computation, 1751
- Cambray*, 1677—congress of, 1725
- Cambridge University*, 1687—D. of, 1714
- Campbell*, 1683
- Canada*, first settlement of the French, 1604—conquered by the English, 1759-60
- Canales*, M. de, 1699
- Cancalle Bay*, the English land at, and re-embark, 1758
- Capel*, Sir Henry, 1695
- Caribees Island*, taken by the English, 1762
- Cards*, stamp duty imposed on, 1631
- Carisbrook castle*, 1647
- Carlisle*, E. of, 1714—the town of, taken by the rebels, 45
- Carlos*, Don, conquers Naples and Sicily, and is proclaimed K. 1734

- Carmichael*, 1679
Carolina, South, 1760
Caroline, Wilhelmina, princess of Wales, afterwards queen of George II. her abilities and character, 1727—her death, 37
Carter, rear Adm. 1692
Carteret, L. 1723
Cartbagena surrenders to the English, 1706—miscarriage of Adm. Vernon's expedition against, 41
Cary, Lucius, Visc. of Falkland, 1643
Cassel, 1677
Castelmaine, E. of, 1680-87
Catalonia, 1693-94-95—1710
Catinat, mareschal of, 1693—1701-2
Catholics, the execution of penal laws claimed against, 1626—a commission to compound with them; *ibid.* all the laws, acts, and prohibitions against them, repealed, 87—an act against, 1700
Camisars, 1710
Cavaliers, 1663-79
Cazal, 1695
Cecil, Sir Edward, 1625
Ceilamare, P. 1718
Cette, 1710
Cevennes, 1710
Charleroi, 1677
Charles, Archd. of Austria, proclaimed K. of Spain, 1703-04—acknowledged by the principal places in Catalonia, *ib.* 10
Charles VI. Emperor, 1711-12
Charles XII. K. of Sweden, expelled from Bender 1713—killed, 1718
Charles, the pretender's son, lands in Scotland and proclaims his father, 1745—publishes manifestoes, takes his residence at Holyrood House, *ib.*—beats the English at Preston Pans, *ib.*—defeated 46—returns to France, *ib.*
Charleroi, 1692-93
Charters of towns, corporations, and boroughs renewed, 1684
Chateau, Renaud, 1689, 1702
Chebourg, its basin and fortifications destroyed, 1758
Cherokee Indians, seven of their chiefs brought to England, 1730—peace with the, 61
Chesterfield, E. of, 1734-45
Chevert, French G. defeated 1758
Chimneys, a tax of two shillings on each, settled on the king during life, 1662
Churbill, Capt. 1675—L. 85, 88
Ciudad Rodrigo taken by the Portuguese, 1706
Civil list, 1689—settled at 830,000*l.* during George II.'s life, 1727
Clanricard, E. of, 1649
Clarendon, Henry Hyde, E. of, and prime minister, 1660—his favour declines, 63, is dismissed, accused of treason, and withdraws to France, 67, 87, 88
Clement XI. Pope, his kindness to the pretender, 1721
Clergy, the method of taxing the, altered, and the power of laying imposition on ecclesiastical revenues transferred from the convocation to the house of commons, 1664—suspended ab officio for refusing to take the oaths, 1689—the disaffected keep a regular correspondence with James II. 93—a grant of queen Anne in favour of the smaller livings, 1704
Clifford, Sir Thomas, 1679
Clinton, L. 1734

- Civot*, his military talents, 1754
—takes Calcutta and defeats the Suba, 57—takes Chander-nagor, *ib.*
- Closter Seven*, convention of, 1757
- Clus*, Mr. de la, 1759—defeated by Adm. Boscawen, *ib.*
- Coin* diminished and adulterated, 1695—advice of Newton upon it, *ib.*—how provided for, 96, 1705-06-17
- Cobbam*, L. 1719-34
- Coke*, Sir Edward, 1625-85
- Commerce*, 1660—G. O. 8—treaty of, with Spain, 1714
- Commons*, publish their remonstrances, 1626—the commons in an uproar, 29—six of their members imprisoned, *ib.*—take no notice of the king's complaints against his Scottish subjects—invade the whole sovereign power, 40—and the ecclesiastical power. *ib.* Their committee examine privy counsellors about opinions delivered in council, *ib.*—the king enters the house to have some members arrested, 42—consolidate by new incroachments, their usurpations of the royal power, 42—invent a new distinction between the king's office and person; levy under his name the forces they employ against him; issue orders for bringing in loans of money and plate; propose conditions of accommodation, amounting to a total annihilation of the monarchical government. Seize the king's revenue, magazines of arms and ammunition, vote an address for a treaty with the king, *ib.*—require the abolition of episcopacy, and the sanction of their settlement of the militia—the conferences for the treaty are broken off, 43—they propose to the king preliminaries, to be accepted before they condescend to treat, 47—vote that no more addresses should be made to the king, 48—sign an engagement not to alter the present government, 59—Charles II.'s letter to the, 60—address the king against his guards, 74—pass a bill for the exclusion of the duke of York, 80—vote that till this bill is passed, they cannot grant the king any supply, *ib.*—resolve that their votes should be printed, 81—vote an address against the dispensing power, 85—are invited to meet by the P. of Orange, 88—go twice into a grand committee to give advice to the king according to his invitation, 92—take the abjuration oath, 1702—their ill-humour against the house of lords, 03-04—their number before and after the union with Scotland, 07—they pass the famous proclamation act against riots and disturbances, 15
- Comprehension*, bill, 1689
- Conde*, P. of, 1761-62
- Conflans*, mareschal of, defeated, 1759-60
- Conformity*. See occasional conformity
- Congress* at Soissons for the pacification of Europe, its slowness, 1729
- Conspiracies*, Edmund Waller's, 1643—of the Royalists against Cromwell is discovered, 58—pretended popish plot, 78, 82—at Venice, 18—of

- the Jacobites against K. William, 96
- Conscience*, liberty of, 1688
- Constantinople*, 1606—revolution at, 1730
- Constitution* improved, 1641—never so much violated and improved than under the dynasty of Stuart, G. O. 8—analysis of, its final improvements, G. O. 9
- Conventicles* and assemblies prohibited, 1660, 68, 78, 82
- Convention* parliament, called a convention, and turned again into a parliament, 1660—and in 1689
- Convocation* of clergy's assembly, 1661—divisions among them, 1704-05-06
- Cooke*, Sir Thomas, 1695
- Coot*, Col. 1759-60
- Copenhagen*, conflagration at, 1728
- Copley*, Col. 1688
- Cornbury*, L. 1683
- Corporation* act, 1661—charitable, 1732
- Coventry*, Sir John, 1671
- Coronation* oath, the form of, 1689
- Corsica*, a revolution in, 1736
- Covenant*, 1638—covenanters, 39-40, 45, 50-51—the act for establishing it burnt by the hangman, 61, 79
- Country-party*, 1730
- Court of Justice*, high, constituted, 1649, 54—the act for its erection burnt by the hangman, 61
- Crown lands*, 1630
- Courtney*, W. 1683
- Courtray*, 1677
- Craggs*, secretary, 1720
- Crauer*, L. 1714
- Crevelt*, battle at, 1758
- Cromartie*, E. of, sentenced to death, 1746
- Culloden*, battle of, 1746
- Cumberland*, William D. of, 1745-46-47—takes the command of the army 57—defeated at Hastenbeck by marshal d'Estrées, 57
- Cromwell*, Oliver, 1629, 37—appointed Gen. of the rebels, 43-44-45, 47-48-49-50-51-52-53—appointed lord protector of the commonwealth by his own council, *ib.*—his death, 1658—his body dug up from his grave, is hanged and buried under the gallows, 60
- Cromwell*, Richard, 1657-58
- Czar*, Peter the Great, comes to England, 1698—Peter III. abandoning his former confederates, concludes a peace, and soon after an alliance with the king of Prussia, and Sweden follows the example, 1762—he is deposed and put to death, *ib.*
- Czarina*, Catherine II. declared empress, 1762
- D'Acbe*, Count, French Adm. 1759
- Damien*, 1757
- Danby*, E. of, 1675, 78-79, 88-89
- Dangerfield*, 1679
- Darien*, 1695, 99
- Dartmouth*, L. 1710
- Davaux*, 1688
- David*, St. 1759
- Daun*, Austrian Gen. 1757
- Debts*, public, important debate on, 1728—its interest reduced to 3 per cent., 49
- Deists*, 1653
- Delamere*, L. 1688
- Delaval*, 1693
- Delinquents*, 1640
- Demetrius*, false, in Russia, 1605, 08

- Denain*, 1712
Denmark, K. of, defeated by the Imperialists, 1626—accommodation of, with Sweden, 59
 —secret offensive alliance both with England and Holland, 65—P. George of, the husband of queen Anne, appointed High Adm. of England, 1702—A yearly sum of 100,000*l.* is voted for him, *ib.* 03
Desborough, Cromwell's brother-in-law, 1657, 59
Dettingen, the battle of, 1704
 —important victory obtained by the king over the French at, 43
Devonshire, William Cavendish, D. of, 1714
Dieppe bombarded, 1694
Dieskau, B. French Gen. 1755
Digges, M. P. 1626
Dillon, L. 1691
Dissenters, or Non-conformists, appellation given to all sects dissenting from the rites of the established church of England, 1661-62—A bill of the protestant dissenters, 80, 87, 89
Distillation of Spirits from grain prohibited, 1759
Dixmude, 1693, 95
Dominica taken, 1761
Dorilaus, envoy of the commonwealth to Holland, put to death by the royalists, 1650
Dorset, E. of, 1714
Douay, 1710, 12
Douglas, Sir Joseph, 1650
Drake, Sir Francis, 1683
Dubois, Abbe, 1717
Dudley, Carleton, 1626
 —, Digges, Sir, 1625
Duguai-trouin, 1707
Dunkirk, 1682—bombarded, 94, 1711, 12, 14, 30
Dundee, Graham, Visc. of, 1687
Duplin, L. committed for high-treason, 1715
Duquesne, 1676—Fort, in America, taken, 1758
Dutch, the, take the Brazils from the Spaniards, 1630—Dutch guards, K. William is obliged to dismiss them, 98—a requisition made to the, for the 6000 troops they were obliged to furnish, and their answer, 1756—threatened with a dreadful calamity by worms, 33
Dykvelt, envoy of the P. of Orange, 1688
Earthquakes in England, 1750—at Lisbon, 55—the victims of those calamities are generously relieved by the English nation, *ib.*
East-India Company, 1691, 93, 95, 98, 1700, 20, 21—its charter prolonged, 30
 —————, French, enter into an alliance with two nabobs to depose that of Arcot, 1754
East Indies, success of the English in the, 1759
Edict of Nantz revoked, 1686
Egremont, L. minister plenipotentiary, 1761
Elcho, L. 1645, 1746
Elections, the interposition of peers in, declared a breach of privilege, 1641—of members attached to the K. 60, 73, 87, 96, 1701—a quarrel between the two houses concerning contested elections, 04—managed successfully by the Tories, 13—A remarkable proclamation respecting the elections, 15
Electric Shock discovered, 1746
Elliot, Sir John, 1625-26, 29
Emden, 1761

- England*, divided into twelve military districts, 1655
Episcopacy restored in Scotland, 1661, 66—all laws in favour of, repealed, 90
Ernst, brother to George I. 1714
Essex, E. of, 1639—Gen. of the rebels, 1643—his death, 46, 79, 83
Estrees, Count d', 1691—Mar. d', 1762
Estrade, Count d', French Amb. his intrigues, 1639
Eugene, P. 1701.02—contracts an intimate friendship with the D. of Marlborough, 04, 06, 09, 11—comes to England, 1712
Eustace, Sir Maurice, chancellor in Ireland, 1661
Exchequer, shutting of the, 1672—supplies the deficiency of coin, 1706
Exchequer Bills, fraudulently endorsed, 1698
Excise, first introduced in England, 1643, 85—Excise scheme, 1733
Exportation of corn prohibited, 1740, 59
Fairfax, commander for the parliament, 1643-44, 45, 49, 60
Falkland, accused of peculation, 1693
Falkirk, battle of, won by the rebels, 1746
Fast in the king's and rebels' armies, 1644—the usual prelude of every signal violence, 59
Ferdinand, P. of Prussia, 1761
Fenwick, Sir John, engaged in the assassination plot, 1697
Ferdinand, P., beats the French at Crevelt, 1758—at Minden, 59, 60—beats P. de Soubise, 62
Ferguson, 1683
Ferrers, L. tried for murder, 1760
Feverham, 1685, 88
Fisbery, Whale, encouraged, 1749—white herring and cod encouraged, 60
Fitzroy, Charles, 1675—Henry, 75
Fitzbarris, 1681
Fleet, a considerable, is prepared for the relief of la Rochelle, 1628
Fleetwood, Cromwell's son-in-law, 1657, 58, 59
Fleurus, battle of, 1690
Foley, Paul, 1693
Fontenoy, the battle of, 1745
Forbin, Chs. de, French Adm. 1707
Forces, foreign, in England, debate about them,
Foundling Hospital erected, 1740
Franche Comté conquered by Lewis XIV. 1608
Franklin, discovers the identity of the electric fire and lighting, 1757
Frederic I. elector of Brandenburg, proclaimed first King of Prussia, 1701
Frederic, P. eldest son of George II. is created P. of Wales, 1728—marries the princess of Saxe Gotha, 36—repairs to England, joins the opposition, 37—displeasure of the king towards him, consequences, *ib.*—he is reconciled with the king, 42
Fribourg, 1713
Fronde, war of the, 1649
Frost, hard, 1683
Fund Act, some account of, 1717
Furnes, 1693

- Galas*, Count, 1711
Galileo, 1633
Gakway, E. of, censured, 1710
Gascoign, Sir Thomas, 1680
Gaultier, Abbot, 1711
Genoa, 1684—all its magazines of provisions burnt by Adm. Mathews, 1742
Gerrard, Sir Gilbert, 1683
Gertruydenberg, 1710
Ghent, 1708, 12
Gibraltar, conquest of, 1704, 11, 27, 29
Gin Act, 1736—repealed, 42
Grinckle, created E. of Athlone, and B. of Aghrim, 1691
Glamorgan, E. of, 1646
Glasgow, 1679
Glencoe, the massacre of, 1692, 95
Gloucester, siege of, 1643—the K. is obliged to raise it, *ib.*—D. of, the K.'s brother, 1660—the son of princess Anne, 1700
Godolphin, 1679, 88, 93, 1704, 05, 07, 08, 09, 10
Gordon, D. of, 1689—Duchess of, 1711—L. Lewis, 1746
Gorée, island, taken, 1758
Gortsu, Swedish B. resident in Holland, seized with his papers, 1717
Göttingen, 1761
Gourville, 1674
Grandval, his plot, 1692
Granville, Sir Bevil, 1643—E. of, secretary of state, 1746
Gray, L. 1683, 85
Grenada taken by the English, 1759
Greenville, Sir John, 1659, 60
Grenville, 1737
Grey, L. 1722
Guadaloupe, taken by the English, 1759
Guards, K.'s, 1674, 79—the 3d and 4th troops of life guards disbanded, 1746
Guardian of the Realm, 1716
Guineas, an attempt to lower their value, 1717
Guiscard, Marquis de, 1711
Gustavus, K. of Sweden, marches into Germany to the protection of the oppressed protestants, 1630—frees Germany from the yoke of the emperor Ferdinand, and perishes in the middle of a complete victory, *ib.*
Gwin, Eleanor, 1684
Habeas Corpus Act, 1679—suspended, 1708, 15, 22, 46
Hair powdering first introduced, 1614
Hackney Coaches, prohibited from standing in the street, 1635
Halifax, Visc. 1679, 85
Hales, Sir Ed. Hales, 1688
Halifax, Visc. 1679, 85—M. of, 89—impeached, 1701—L. Halifax, 1714—A town of that name, built in Nova Scotia, 49
Hambden, 1637, 42—killed, 43—John, 1683
Hamilton, M. of, sent to treat with the covenanters, 1638, 39, 45, 48, 49—D. of, 1650—mortally wounded, 1651—Sir Robert, 1689—D. of, *ib.* 1702, 04—created a peer of Great Britain, claims his place in the house of lords, 11, 12
Hammond, Col. gov. of the Isle of Wight, 1647
Hanover Family, 1702—Electot of, takes the command of the confederate army, 07—the queen displeased at his conduct, 12, 13—harassed by the

- whigs with demands of money, *ib.* 14—great displeasure of the queen towards him, and a remarkable letter of her majesty to him, *ib.*
- Hanover*, duchy, made the 9th electorate of Germany, 1692
- Hanoverians*, great jealousy of the English on account of the pretended partiality and preference shown to, in disgrace of the British troops, 1743
- Hanoverian Forces*, in British pay, land in England, 1756
- Harcourt*, L. Chancellor, 1714, 17
- Hardwicke*, L. Chancellor, his virtues and abilities, 1737—succeeds in effecting a reconciliation among the ministers, 40
- Harleian Manuscripts*, 1753
- Harley*, Robert, 1693, 1707-08, 10, 11—created B. of Wigmore, E. of Oxford and Mortimer, *ib.*
- Harrington*, E. of, secretary of state, 1746
- Harrison*, Col. of the rebellious army, sent to conduct the K. to London, 1649
- Hartington*, M. of, L. Lieutenant of Ireland, 1756
- Haversham*, L. 1705
- Havannab*, the island, taken by the English, 1762
- Havre de Grace*, bombarded, 1694—and in 1759
- Hawke*, Rear-Adm. 1747, 59
- Hawley*, Gen. 1746
- Hazelrig*, 1639, 42
- Hearth-money* abolished, 1689
- Heidelberg*, 1643
- Heinsius*, pensionary, 1706, 11
- Henrietta* of France marries Charles I. 1625
- Herse Cassel*, P. of, 1692
- High Commission*, 1630, 37, 40—suppressed, 41, 86, G. O. 8.
- High Treason*, a bill for regulating trials of, 1695
- Hill*, John, 1710
- Hodgson*, Gen. 1761
- Hogue*, la, 1692
- Hockstet*, 1704
- Holland*, E. of, 1639, 48
- Holland*, New, discovered in 1618
- Hollis*, Denzel L. 1660
- Holmes*, Sir Robert, expels the Dutch from Cape Corse, Cape Verde, the isle of Gorée, and Nova Belgia, 1664—common-dore, 1758-59
- Home*, E. of, 1700
- Hook*, col. sent to Scotland by the Pretender, 1707
- Hopton*, Sir Ralph, 1643
- Hosier*, Adm. 1726
- Horse Guards* and Foot Guards to attend the K. first established, 1660
- Hotbam*, 1643
- Howard*, L. 1683
- Hudson's Bay*, 1711
- Hungary*, insurrection in, 1703
- Huntingdon*, E. of, 1692
- Huxelles*, Mareschal d', 1710-11
- Huy*, 1693-94—taken by the French, 1705—retaken by the D. of Marlborough, *ib.*
- Jacobites*, 1691-92—two different classes of, 1703, 07, 14, 18
- Jamaica*, conquest of, 1655
- James II.* K. before the opening of the congress publishes two manifestoes, 1697—his apathy, 1700—his death, 1701
- Jansenism*, 1657—quarrels about, 1727, 40, 53
- Jefferies*, 1685, 88
- Jennings*, Sarah, Countess of

- Marlborough, 1702, 07,
 09-10—John—Adm. 26
Jersey, L. 1711, 15
Jesuits, a proclamation against
 the, and catholic priests,
 1663, 66, 86—dissolved in
 France, 62
Jews, an act for naturalizing
 them passed, 1753—repealed,
ib.
Imprisonment of the king's ser-
 jeant, 1628
Indemnity acts, 1690
Indigo, an act for encouraging
 the culture and manufacture
 of, in America, 1748
Inoculation of small pox intro-
 duced and first tried in Eng-
 land, 1727
Independents, a new sect, 1644,
 49
Indians in America, called the
 Six Nations, 1754
Inniskillin, 1689
Inquiry on the state of the nation,
 1707, 42—on the conduct of
 the ministers, 57
Insurance, a bill prohibiting—
 on ships belonging to France,
 1748
Insurrection, in Scotland, 1638
 —in favour of the king in
 Kent, Surrey, Essex, and
 Wales, 48-49
Inverness, the citadel taken by
 the rebels, 1746
Joyce, Cornet, 1647
Ireland, 1641—insurrection a-
 gainst the English protestants,
ib.—subdued by Ireton,
 1651
Ireton, 1649, 51, 60
Irish, above 40,000 pass into
 foreign service after the death
 of Charles I. 1649—20,000
 transported to France, 91
Irish forfeitures, inquiries res-
 pecting the grants of, 1700
- Irish*, pursue every method of
 limiting the king's authority,
 1641
Judges, independence of, secured,
 1641—their salaries augment-
 ed, 1758
Jumonville murdered, 1754
Juries regulated, 1730
Juxon, Bish. 1649
Kensington palace, bought, 1689
Kent, D. of, 1714
Kentish petition, 1701
Keiserlauter, 1713
Keiserswaart, 1703
Keppel, Commodore, 1758, 61
Keroualle, Madame, afterwards
 duchess of Portsmouth,
 1670
Kidd, 1699
Killegrew, 1693
Kilmanseck, baroness of, 1717
Kilmarnock, E. of, sentenced to
 death, 1746
Kirke, Colonel, 1685, 90
Knight, Robert, cashier of the
 South-Sea Company, arrested
 on the continent and confined
 in the citadel of Antwerp,
 makes his escape, 1721
Knights, order of the knights of
 Bath revived, 1725—of St.
 Lewis in France, 1693
Konigsmark, Count, a Swedish
 nobleman, his tragical death,
 1727
Lalippe Buckleburgh, Count of,
 1762-63
Lally, Gen. 1758-59—condemn-
 ed to death, 61
Lambert, 1648, 57, 59-60
Lancashire plot, 1691
Land-tax lowered, 1732
Landau, 1702, 13
Landreay, 1712
Lane, 1651

- Lansdown*, L. committed to the tower for high treason, 1715
- Laud*, Archb. of Canterbury, 1630, 33—is impeached, 40—executed, 45
- Lauderdale*, E. of, 1650, 61, 70
- Laudohn*, Gen. 1761
- Lauzon*, Count de, 1688 89-90
- Law*, John, author of the Mississippi Scheme, came to England, 1721
- Laufelt*, battle of, won by the French, 1747
- Layer*, enlists men for the Pretender, 1722-23
- League* of Holland, Sweden, Denmark, and Lower Saxony against the emperor, 1626—of the Rhine, 1658—of Augsburg, 1637
- Leede*, Spanish Gen. 1717
- Leeds*, Thomas Osborne, M. of Caermarthen, created D. of, 1710
- Legge*, chancellor of the exchequer—his resignation, 1757
- Lennox*, Charles, D. of, 1675
- Leslie*, Scottish Gen. 1650
- Levellers*, 1647, 49
- Lewis XIV.* K. of France—Charles II. sells his neutrality to, 1677—informs James II. of the preparations and intentions of the P. of Orange, and offers to reinforce the English fleet with a squadron of French ships, 88—or to march an army into the Netherlands, 88-89—offers terms for a general peace, 93—agrees to furnish an army to K. James, and every thing necessary for a descent; supports the P. of Conty as a candidate for the crown of Poland refused by K. James, 97—important propositions made by him to K. James, and rejected, *ib.*—proposes to K. William a partition of the Spanish monarchy after the death of Charles II. 98—visits king James in his last moments, and promises to acknowledge the P. of Wales K. of England, 1701—proposes terms of pacification, 96, 99—his offers are published, together with the demands of the allies, *ib.*—makes new applications for peace, 1710—a remarkable answer of Lewis XIV. to the E. of Stairs; dies, 1715
- Lewis XV.* K. of France; his marriage, 1725—an attempt to assassinate him, 57
- Liege*, 1693, 1705
- Ligonier*, Sir John, 1745—taken at the battle of Laffeldt, 47
- Lima* swallowed up by an earthquake, 1746
- Limerick*, 1690—reduced by K. William, 91
- Lindsey*, E. of, 1643
- Lisbon*, earthquake, 1755
- Lisle*, Sir George, 1648
- Littleton* or *Lyttleton*, afterwards L. his eloquence, 1736-37
- Liturgy*, 1637—in Scotland, *ib.* 38
- Loans*, forced, 1626
- London*, dreadful conflagration, 1666, see *Plague*—its charter forfeited, 1683—alarm bells rung and beacons fired in, 88—raises in four days 200,000l. for the P. of Orange 89—London wooden bridge set on fire, 1758
- London Bridge*, act for repairing, 1758
- Londonderry* besieged by the Jacobites, 1689

- Lords* of articles in Scotland, 1641—restored, 61
Lords, house of, their moderation, 1628—the attorney-general appears in the house, and by the king's command enters an accusation of high treason against Pym, Hambden, Hollis, Haslerig, Strode, 1642—the doors of the house locked up to prevent their assembling, 49—called the other house, 59—the former house of, reinstated, 60—their address to the P. of Orange, 1688
Loche, Mareschal de, 1693
Lorient, an unsuccessful attempt against, 1746
Lorrain, 1677—D. of, 1714
Lotteries, 1759
Lowat, L. 1746
Loudon Fort, taken by the Cherokees, 1760
Louisbourg, 1748, 58
Louvain, 1692
Lucas, Sir Charles, 1644, 48
Lunt's plot, 1694
Luxembourg, Mareschal D. of, 1677, 93, 95
Lyttleton, Gov. of South Carolina, marches against the Cherokees, 1760
Mac Cartis, 1689
Macclesfield, E. of, 1683—L. chancellor impeached for prevarication and condemned, 1724
Madras, 1759
Madrid, the K.'s palace and archives destroyed by fire, 1734
Maestricht, 1676, 93, 95
Magdalen Hospital, the institution of, 1758
Mabomet, 1717
Mabon, 1718, 27
Mabon Port, 1718, 27
Maintenon, Madame de, 1692
Majorca and Ivica, 1706
Mahnant and wicked, epithets given to the king's adherents; while those of the parliament were called *godly* and well affected, 1642
Malplaquet, battle of, 1709
Malt, duty on, extended to Scotland, 1713
Manchester, Montague, E. of, Gen. for the parliament, 1643-44, 60, 1700—riots at, 58, the town of, taken by the rebels, 45
Mansion House founded, 1739—inhabited, 52
Manwaring, Dr. imprisoned by the commons and suspended during three years, 1628—his pardon and promotion complained of by the commons, 1629
Mar, E. of, 1715
Marchmont, E. of, 1703, 34
Marigalante taken by the English, 1759
Maritime laws of England extended to America, 1755
Mariborough, E. of, 1689-90-91—his disgrace, 92—countess of, *ib.* 98—appointed plenipotentiary to the states general and commander of the English troops in Holland, 1701-02-03-04-05—writes to mareschal de Villars, *ib.* 06-07 08-09—offers his services to the Pretender and to the elector of Hanover, 10-11—charged with various speculations, 13-14, 57-58
Marshall's court abolished, 1641
Marriage act, 1753
Marsaglia, the battle of, 1693
Marseilles, a dreadful plague at, 1720
Martinico taken by the English, 1762
Mary, Princess, Charles I.'s

- daughter, marries William P. of Orange, 1641—Mary, daughter of the D. of York, (James II.) marries the P. of Orange, 1677
- Masbam*, Mrs. queen Anne's favourite, 1707, 10, 12-13-14
- Massacre of Glencoe*, 1691
- Matthews*, Adm. 1742—declared incapable of serving in his majesty's navy
- Matukoff*, Muscovite Amb. insulted, consequences, 1709
- Maurice*, P. 1643
- Mazanielle*, 1647
- Maxarin*, Card. 1651, 54, 52-53—duchess of, 61, 75, 89
- Mazulipatam*, 1759
- Medicis*, queen dowager Mary of, banished from France and retired into England; is desired after a residence of three years to quit the kingdom, 1640
- Melfort*, E. of, 1701
- Melvil*, 1690
- Mesnager*, 1711-12
- Menin*, 1712
- Mercy*, Count, 1709
- Middleton*, Gen. of the rebels, 1644—created E. and sent commissioner to the Scottish parliament, 1661, 68, 1707
- Milford*, E. of, James's prime minister, 1691
- Militia*, 1630—some rules about, 63, G. O. 8, 1692—first established in France, 1726
- Millenarians*, 1649, 53—insurrection of, 60
- Milou*, Cromwell's secretary, 1660
- Minas*, (Las) Spanish Gen. 1707
- Minden*, battle at, 1759
- Minorca*, surrender of, to the French, 1756
- Mirepoix*, D. of, French Amb. 1755
- Mississippi Scheme*, 1718, 21
- Monarchy*, dissolution of, 1649
- Monk*, George, 1651—proclaims R Cromwell, 58-59-60, 66
- Morkton*, Gen. 1759, 62
- Monmouth*, D. of, 1678-79, 83, 85
- Mons*, 1691, 1709
- Montague*, Edward, 1659-60—chancellor of the exchequer, 1696
- Montcalm*, 1759
- Montecuculli*, 1673, 75
- Montgomery*, 1690—Col. his success against the Cherokees, 1760
- Montreal*, 1759-60
- Montrose*, E. of, 1645—executed, 1650, 1714, 34
- Mordaunt*, active and courageous Royalist, 1659-60
- More*, Roger, 1641
- Morocco*, Emperor of, assists the English in the destruction of Sallée, a receptacle of pirates, 1636
- Morrice*, Mr. 1660
- Mortmain*, the statute of, altered, 1736
- Munden*, Sir John, 1702
- Murray*, Gen. 1760
- Museum*, British, established, 1753
- Mutiny Bill*, extended to the East Indies, 1754—to America, 55
- Mutiny*, symptoms of, betrayed by the fleet, 1688
- Namur*, 1692, 95
- Nassau*, Saarburch, 1702
- Naturalization* of the French protestants. See *Protestants*. The benefit of, restrained to the time of residence in England, 1752
- Navigation act*, 1652
- Navy*, English, G. O. 8

- Nærwinden*, 1693
Nerva, battle of, won by Charles XII. 1700
Netherlands, a powerful army assembled in the, under the command of the duke of Burgundy, 1708
Newcastle, E. of, 1643—created M. *ib.* 44—D. of, 1717, 46—his answer in council to Mr. Pitt, 61
Newfoundland, 1711, 62
Newgate Prison, a dreadful infection in, 1750
Newton, Isaac, knighted, 1705, 17
Niagara Fort taken, 1759
Nicholas, Sir Edward, secretary of state, 1660—his resignation, 62
Nimeguen, 1676
Nisvernois, D. of, Min. Plenip. of France, 1762
Noailles, Mareschal de, 1694, 1710
Nonconformists, suspension of the laws enacted against, 1672
Non Jurors, 1689
Norris, Sir John, Adm. 1710-11, 15, 27
North, L. 1722
Northumberland, E. of, 1640
Norton, 1651
Nottingham, Charles I. erects his royal standard at, 1642—E. of, 88-89, 92—dismissed, 93, 1714
Nova Scotia, a new colony formed in, 1749—differences arising between England and France respecting its boundaries, 54
Oak, Charles II. shelters himself upon an, 1651
Oates, Titus, and Tongue, 1678, 83, 85, 89
Occasional conformity, bill against; passes the house of commons; is rejected by the upper house; 1703—passes both houses, 11—the acts against, repealed, 18
Ogle, Sir Chaloner, Adm. attempts without success several attacks against the Spanish colonies, 1743
Orange, P. of, 1650—Princess, 60—P. 72, 74, 76-77-78, 85, 88—his manifesto, *ib.*—P. of, elected stadtholder, 1747
Ordinance, *self-denying*, 1644
Orford, Edward Russel, E. of, impeached, 1701, 14
Orkney, E. of, 1703
Orleans, D. of, 1706, 08
Ormond, D. of, 1643—proclaims the K. (Charles II.) in Ireland, 49, 58, 68, 71, 81, 86, 1702, 12, 14-15—impeached, *ib.* 19, 23
Orphans, asylum for abandoned, founded, 1758
Orreiry, L. 1647—E. of, 1722
Osborne, Adm. 1758-59
Osnaburg taken, 1761
Ostaltic, 1695
Oxenstiern, 1693
Oxford, 1643—university, 83, 87, 95
Oxford, E. of, 1688—Robert Harley, created E. of, 1711-12-13-14—impeached, 15—acquitted, 17
Palmer, Mrs. afterwards created duchess of Cleveland, 1663
Papists, 1629, 41—commanded to depart from London and Westminster, 92
Parliament assembled at Oxford, 1625—dissolved by Charles I.—with a resolution of not calling any more, 1629—re-assembled after an intermission of above eleven years, 1640—dissolved, *ib.*—assem-

bled again, *ib.*—a bill is issued, enacting that they should be triennial, *ib.*—appoint a committee with great powers to sit during the recess, and another to attend the king in Scotland, 41—publish a remonstrance against the king, who publishes a refutation, *ib.*—impose heavy taxes, 1643—a covenant; make a new great seal, and declare void all patents, sealed by the king, *ib.*—treat for a nearer confederacy with the Scots, *ib.*—the king summoned to Oxford all the members of both houses, 44—two parliaments existing at once, *ib.*—make no reply to the king's pacific messages, 46—alarmed at the army's insurrection, complies with all their demands, 47—address the king in a more respectful style; a committee of both houses is sent to the Isle of Wight to treat with the king, they extort from Charles exorbitant concessions subversive of the constitution, 48—Praise-God Bare-Bone parliament composed by Cromwell, 1653—they dissolve themselves after six months, *ib.*—the new parliament created by Cromwell is assembled, and display a refractory spirit, 54—is dissolved, 55—a new parliament is summoned by Cromwell who uses every art to influence the elections, and rejects about one hundred who were obnoxious to him, 56—the rest pass a bill for investing him with royal dignity, 57—dissolved, 58—assembled again by Cromwell and soon after dissolved, 59

—the long parliament dissolved by Cromwell; re-assembled by the council of officers and assume the whole authority of government, *ib.*—why called the rump parliament, *ib.*—they dissolve themselves, 60—triennial act repealed, 64—a contest respecting the length of the last prorogation, 77—alarmed at the growing power of France, *ib.*—dissolved, 79—they vote that king James had abdicated, 89—acts of corruption, bribery, and venality of some members, 95—subscribe an act of association for the defence of the king, 96—dissolved, 1702—vote a yearly sum of 100,000*l.* in favour of the P. of Denmark, *ib.*—pass a bill appointing a regency in case of Queen Anne's death, 95—an address to the queen desiring that she would entertain thoughts of a second marriage, 98—the triennial act is repealed and the term of parliament extended to seven years, 16

Parliament in Scotland, 1639—make no account of the royal authority, *ib.*—proclaims Charles II. as king, 1650, 1705

Parliament in Ireland, James II. opens the session, 1689—repeal the act of settlement and pass an act to attain of treason all Irish protestants of both sexes absent from Ireland, *ib.*—prorogued by K. James, *ib.*

Parma, D. of, his agent in London is ordered to depart the kingdom in two days, 1728—battle of, and Guartalla, 85
Parr dies, 152 years old, 1695

- Partition treaty*, new, 1700
Peace with France and Spain, 1629—a cry for, is renewed, 1643—negotiations for, ineffectually resumed, 45—peace between Cromwell and the Dutch, 1654—articles of peace between England and France, 55—with the Dutch, 74—of Utrecht,—1713—between Great Britain and Spain, 21—between the courts of Vienna and Spain, 25—between France, England, and the confederates, 48
Peers, sixteen for Scotland; English summoned to attend the K. in his expedition against Scotland, 1639—great council of, assembled at York by the K. 40—sixteen of them are appointed to meet the Scottish commissioners for a pacification, *ib.* 17—present a petition, insisting on a session of parliament, 80—twelve new peers created, 1711—their number in the reign of James I. and in the following, 19—the bill for limiting their number rejected by the house of commons, *ib.*
Peiham, 1746—chancellor of the exchequer, his character and death, 1754
Pembroke, E. of, 1705
Penn, 1691
Pension-bill, 1730-31, &c.
Perib entered by the rebels, 1746—D. of, *ib.*
Peruvian Bark first brought in France, 1630
Peter, Czar. See *Czar Peter*
Peterborough, E. of, 1705, 13
Petersvarading, battle of, 1716
Petitions, seditious, 1640, 42—regulated, 61
Petitioners and *Abhorers*, 80—of the county of Kent, 1701
Pheasants, isle of the, 1659
Philip V. K. of Spain, his success in Portugal, 1704, 12—resigns the crown to his son and reascends the throne, 24
Philips, Sir Robert, 1625
Philipsburg, 1676, 1734
Piémont invaded, 1691
Pignerol, 1693
Pitt, William, afterwards L. Chatham, his eloquence, 1736-37, 46—succeeds Mr. Fox in the office of secretary of state, 56—resigns the seals, 57—is presented on that occasion with the freedom of several towns, *ib.*—is reinstated in his office, *ib.*—his speech in council, 61—his resignation, *ib.*
Pittsburg, 1758
Place bill, or *Pension bill*, 1730-31
Placentia, 1711
Plague rages in London, 1665—at Marseilles, 1721
Platen, Gen. 1761
Plays, and play houses, a bill to restrain the players from acting any new plays till approved by the administration, 1737
Plot in Ireland, of Roger More, 1641—a pretended popish, 78—Rye House plot, 83—plot in Scotland, 90—Grandval's plot, 92—Lancashire plot, 95—plot in Scotland, 1703
Pecocks, Adm. beats Count d'Aché, 1758-59, 62
Poland, the elector of Saxony, chosen K. of, 1696
Polignac, the abbé, afterwards Cardinal of, 1697, 1710
Pomfret, E. of, 1714
Pondichery, 1680, 93, 1759—its surrender, 61
Popery, complaints against, 1625, 78, 80
Populace, riots of the, 1641

- Porteous*, Captain, murdered by the mob, 1737
- Portland*, W. Bentinck, E. of 1697, 98—impeached, 1701
- Porto Bello* taken by Adm. Vernon, 1740
- Portocarrero*, Card. 1700
- Portugal*, the infanta of, marries Charles II. 1662—war declared by France and Spain against, 1762—the title of most faithful majesty given by the Pope to the K. of, 49—an attempt to assassinate the K. of, 58
- Power*, dispensing, 1685
- Powis*, D. of, 1691—committed to the tower for high treason, 1715
- Prague*, battle of, 1757
- Praise-God Barebones*, 1653, 60
- Prerogative*, Royal, 1637, 91
- Presbyterians*, 1643—contests between them and the independents, 46, 47, 48, 59, 60, 61, 62, 68, 90
- Preston*, L. 1691
- , the battle of, 1713
- *Pau*, the battle of, 1745
- Pretender*, his birth, 1688, 1707—assumes the name of Chev. de St. George, 08, 09—writes to the Queen, 1711—addresses against him, 13, 14—a reward of 100,000l. promised for apprehending him, *ib.*—receives an intimation from M. de Torcy to quit the territories of France, *ib.*—his manifesto, *ib.*—proclaimed in Scotland under the name of James III. 15—arrives at Peterhead, *ib.*—is solemnly proclaimed at Fetterross, *ib.*—marries a daughter of John Sobieski, K. of Poland, and returns to France, 16, 18—a new conspiracy in his favour, 22—his declaration, *ib.*—preparations in his favour carried on in France in concert with disaffected persons in England, 44—unsatisfactory answer of the K. of France on this occasion—war is declared and proclaimed on both sides, *ib.*—a new law against treasonable correspondence, attainting of high treason any of the pretender's sons, in case they should attempt to land in Great Britain, *ib.*—his protest against the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, 48—receives an intimation to depart from France, *ib.*—is seized and sent out of the kingdom, *ib.*
- Pride*, Col. in the rebel's army, 1648
- Princess Royal*, married to the P. of Orange, 1783
- Prior*, Matthew, 1698, 1711, 14, 15
- Proclamations*, K.'s, executed as laws, 1635 — Proclamation Act, 1714
- Protestants*, foreigners, bill of naturalization for, 1708—repealed, 12—proposed again and rejected, 47
- Protestant Succession*, 1714
- Prussia*, erected into a kingdom, 1701
- Prynne*, how punished for a libel, 1636
- Pulteney*, William, 1730—all the places possessed by Sir R. Walpole are offered to him, with the power of forming his own administration, 42—created E. of Bath, *ib.*
- Pultowa*, battle of, 1700
- Puritans*, 1629, 30, 37, 40
- Pym*, Mr. 1625, 37, 42—his death, 1644
- Pyrenées*, treaty of the, 1659

- Quakers*, 1660—their address to James II. 85, 1721
- Quebec*, 1711—taken, 1759—60
- Queen* embarks for Holland, 1642
—sends from Holland a cargo of arms and ammunition, 42
- Queensbury*, James Douglas D. of, 1702-03
- Quesinterne*, his scheme for carrying off the dauphin from Versailles, 1708
- Quesnoy*, 1693, 1712
- Quo Warranto*, writ of, 1683
- Radnor*, E. of, 1679
- Radstadt*, conferences for peace held at, between P. Eugene and Mareschal de Villars, 1713
- Raine's*, Henry, hospital for the maintenance of 40 poor maidens, founded by, 1758
- Ramilh*, battle of, 1706
- Rank* between the land and sea officers fixed, 1748
- Ratisbon*, 1663
- Rebellion* in France headed by Monsieur the K.'s brother, 1632—in Catalonia, 1640
- Rebels* subdued in Scotland; their leaders tried and executed, 1716
- Recusants*, 1630, 72
- Regency*, 1714—provision settled for the: and for the tuition of the person of the successor to the throne in case of a minority, 51
- Renunciation* of the crown of France by the K. of Spain, 1712
- Restoration* of Charles II. 1660
- Revenue* of the crown, G. O. 8.
- Rbt*, isle of, 1696
- Richelieu*, Card. 1627—D. of, 1757
- Right*, petition of, 1628—passes both houses, *ib.*—is sanctioned, *ib.*
- Rights*, declarations of, 1689
- Riots*, 1715—violent, at Glasgow, 26, 56—at Manchester, 58
- Riswick*, negotiations at, 1697
- Robinson*, Bish. of Bristol, L. Privy Seal, 1712
- Rochefort*, 1692—expedition against; miscarriage; general discontents and inquiry, 1757
- Rochelle la*, siege of, by Card. Richelieu, 1627
- Rochester*, E. of, 1685, 86, 87
—Bish. of, 1722-23
- Rodney*, R. Adm. 1759, 62
- Rome*, James II. sends an Amb. to, 1687
- Ronquillo*, 1685
- Rooke*, Rear-Adm. 1698, 1702
- Rosbach*, battle of, 1757
- Roses*, 1693
- Roussillon*, 1642
- Rouillé*, President, 1709—M. French minister, his letter to Mr. Fox, Sec. of State, 56
- Rowes*, Sir Francis, 1683
- Roxburgh*, D. of, 1714
- Ruiter*, 1652, 1664
- Rumsey*, 1683
- Rupert*, P. 1643-44
- Russell*, L. 1679, 83—Adm. 91, 92—dismissed, 93—corresponds with St. Germain, *ib.*—re-appointed Adm. *ib.* 96—created E. of Orford, 98
- Russia*, the Dukedom of, erected into an empire, 1727—revolution, 41—peace of, with Sweden, 43
- Rutven*, 1643
- Rye Plot*, 1683
- Riswick*. See *Treaties*
- Sacheverell*, Dr. 1709-10
- St. Cast*, 1758
- St. Germain*, 1688, 89, 90, 91, 92, 96, 1702, 07, 09, 12—Count, 60

- St. John*, Henry, afterwards Vis. Bolingbroke, 1711
- St. Malo*, 1692, 93, 1757, 58
- St. Martin*, island of, taken, 1759
- St. Omar*, 1677
- St. Paul's*, subscription for rebuilding
- Sackville*, L. George, 1758, 59
—tried by a court-martial, 60
- Sailors*, mutiny of at Dieppe, 1625
- Salisbury*, E. of, 1677
- Salt-Tax* reduced, 1730—revived, 32
- Sandwich*, E. of, 1672
- Sandys*, Sir Edwin, 1625
- Saragossa*, 1710
- Sardinia* erected into a kingdom, 1708—invaded by a Spanish army, 17, 32, 45
- Sarfield*, 1690
- Satellites* of Jupiter discovered, 1608
- Saunder*, Adm. 1759
- Sawey*, D. of, 1692-93—a remarkable letter of Lewis XIV. to the D. of, *ib.*—all his considerable places taken, 1705, 12
- Saxe*, Count, and afterwards Mareschal de, 1745—created Mareschal de Camp, Gen. 47, 48
- Scarcity* of Corn, measures respecting the, 1756-57
- Scarborough*, E. of, 1714
- Scarsdale*, E. of, 1692
- Schweidnitz*, 1757, 61, 62
- Schism*, a bill to prevent the growth of, 1714
- Sclangenburg*, a Dutch Gen. 1705
- Schomberg*, D. of, 1689
- Schulenburg*, Baroness of, 1717
- Schutz*, 1714
- Scotland*, rebellion in, 1639—a pacification ensues, *ib.*—war renewed, *ib.* 1641, 47, 48—
- Charles II. sets sail for, and before landing is obliged to sign the covenant, 1650—the clergy of, alarmed at the K.'s popularity, order him to quit the camp, *ib.*—Subdued by Monk, 1651—an act for incorporating into one commonwealth with England, 62—this union is confirmed by an ordinance of Cromwell, 54—all the forts erected by Cromwell in that country are demolished, and all the forces disbanded, 61—union of with England, eagerly recommended by K. William in his last moments, 1702—union of with England ratified, 66
- Scotch* Brigade,
- Scotland*, an act for encouraging loyalty in, 1715—rebellion breaks out in, *ib.*—three hundred Spaniards land in, 19
- Scots*, 1640—betray the K. to the rebels, 46—proclaim Cha. II. 49
- Scottish* East-India Company, 1696, 99, 1700
- Peers, incapacity of their eldest sons to be elected members of the house of commons, 1641—members of both houses request the Queen's permission for bringing in a bill for the dissolution of the union, 1713
- Scroggs*, Chief Justice, 1681
- Seaford*, E. of, 1703
- Secession* in Scotland, 1702—of the house of commons in England, 39—important bills passed during the, *ib.*—the seceders resume their functions, *ib.*
- Security*, act of, in Scotland, 1703—receives the royal assent, 24
- Sedley*, Mrs. 1685

- Selden*, Mr. 1625
Senegal taken, 1758
Seneterre, M. de, French Amb. his intrigues, 1630
Septennial Parliaments, repeal of the Septennial Bill proposed and rejected, 1734
Seymour, Sir Francis, 1625
Shaftesbury, Ashley Cooper, E. of, 1677, 79, 80, 81, 83
Sharpe, Dr. 1686
Sheldon, Archb. of Canterbury, 1669—Mr. 1688
Shepherd, 1683
Shepheard, 1718
Sheriffs, members of parliament appointed sheriffs to prevent their being re-elected, 1626, 83
Shippon, M. P. sent to the Tower, 1717
Shipwreck Bill passed, 1763
Ship Money levied, 1634, 36
Shirley, Dr. 1675
Shovel, Cloudesley, 1698, 1707
Shrewsbury, E. of, 1688-89—corresponds with St. Germain, 33—D. of, 1710, 12, 13
Sicily, 1712
Sidney, Algernon, 1659, 83
Silesia conquered by the K. of Prussia, 1741, 45
Sinking Fund established, 1717—account of it given by Sir Robert Walpole, 28, 32, 33
Sloane Collection, 1753
Sobieski, John, K. of Poland, 1697—Stanislaus elected K. of Poland, 1733
Society, Royal, first established, 1660
 ——— for the encouragement of Arts established.
Somerset, D. of, 1708, 14
Sommers, Sir John, 1693, 1700—impeached, 1701, 07
Sophia, Princess of Zell, misfortunes of, 1727
Soubise, P. of, 1761, 62
South-Sea Trade and Company, 1695—South-Sea Act, 1717—the K. Governor of the South-Sea Company, 18, 19—South-Sea Scheme, 20—opposed by Sir Rob. Walpole, *ib.*—some account of its downfall and consequence, 21
Spain, K. of, proposes new treaties, to England, 1723—depredations of the Spaniards against the English trade in America, 37—warm debates on that respect, 39
Spire, 1713
Spirituuous Liquors, heavy duty laid upon, to reduce the consumption, 1756—the bill is repealed, 1748
Stafford, Visc. 1680
Stair, John Dalrymple, E. of, 1714, 34—his complaints against the Hanoverian Generals, 43
Stamford, E. of, 1648
Stanbope, 1699—Secretary of State, 1715, 17, 21
Stanning, Nicholas, 1643
Stanley, 1761
Stanislaus Leeckzinski, K. of Poland,
Star Chamber, 1630, 31, 40—its suppression, 1641
Starhemberg, Austrian General, 1710
States of Holland
States general in France, the last before the revolution was held in, 1614
Steele, political pamphlets of, 1714
Stirling taken by the rebels, 1746
Stirum, Count, 1703
Stormont, L. minister plenip. 1761
Strafford, Thomas Wentworth, E. of, 1640—is impeached by

- the commons, *ib.*—his trial; he is condemned to death; writes to the king; is executed, 1641—*L.* 1709, 12, 14—impeached, 15
- Stuart Family*, projects of restoring the, 1703
- Subsidies* granted to the queen of Hungary, which involves England in a war with France, 1741
- Succession*, settlement of the, to the crown, 1689—in the house of Hanover, 1701—proposed in the parliament of Scotland, and rejected with indignation, 1703
- Sunderland*, E. of, 1679, 86, 93, 95-96, 1710, 17, 21-22
- Sweden*, accommodation of, with Denmark, 1659—a conspiracy to alter the government of,
- Tables* in Scotland, 1638
- Talbot*, L. 1651, 86—chancellor, his character, 1737
- Tallard*, Count de, 1698-99—mareschal, 1702, 04
- Tanjaour*, 1759
- Taxes* during the commonwealth, 1660
- Tzkehy*, 1679
- Temple*, Sir William, 1668, 70, 74, 78-79
- Tennison*, Archb. of Canterbury, 1714
- Test*, sacramental, 1675, 88
- Tbamas*, Kouli Khan, usurps the throne of Persia, 1739—killed in a sedition, 47
- Theodore*, K. of Corsica, 1756
- Thistle*, order of the revived, 1703
- Thurot*, Captain, 1759—killed, 60
- Ticonderago*, 1758-59
- Timmouth*, M. of, 1715
- Tirlmont* dismantled, 1705
- Tonnage* and Poundage, 1626—remonstrance against levying it without the consent of parliament, 1628, 29, 30, 40—granted for life to Charles II. 60
- Torcy*, Marquis de, 1700, 09, 10, 11, 12, 14
- Tories*, 1680, 89, 90, 93, 1702, 09, 10, 14
- Torrington*, 1690
- Toulon*, siege of, 1707
- Tournay*, 1677, 1709, 12
- Tourville*, 1693-93
- Tower*, London's, 1675
- Townsend*, Visc. 1709, 12, 14, 17, 23, 27
- Train-bands*, 1692
- Treaties*, a treaty proposed by Cromwell to the Dutch, who refuse it, 1652—of Aix-la Chapelle between France and Spain, 1668—at Nimeguen, 78—at Munster, 1648—at Munster and Osnabruc, *ib.*—at the Hague, 1681—of Riswick, 97—Partition treaty, 98—of the grand Alliance, 1701—See *Peuce*; between Geo. I. and the K. of Denmark, for the final cession of the Duchies of Bremen and Verden, 15—of Seville, between England and Spain, 29-30—of Vienna, between England and the Emperor, 31—between the Queen of Hungary and Prussia, 42—A treaty signed at Worms, between the plenipotentiaries of the Queen of Hungary, the Kings of Great Britain and Sardinia, 1743—between England and Russia, 47—between England and Spain, 50—between the Kings of England and Prus-

- sia, 56—between France and Sardinia, 60—between the courts of France and Spain, *ib.* known by the name of Family Compact, 61-62—between G. Britain, France, and Spain, and acceded to by the K. of Portugal, 63
- Trenchard*, St. John, 1683, 93
Treves, 1675
Trevor, 1695
Trevaunion, 1643
Trial and condemnation of the regicides, 1660
Tripoli, bombardment of, 1728
Tromp, Dutch Adm. 1652
Tullibardine, M. of, attends Prince Charles in Scotland, 1745
Turenne, 1675
Tweedale, John Hay, M. of 1695, 1704, 05
Tyrconnel, E. of 1689, created a D. *ib.*
- Valenciennes*, 1677
Valladolid, 1710
Vane, 1660, executed 62
Vauban, 1693
Vaudemont, Prince, 1701
Vaudreuil, M. de, 1757, 59, 60
Vendome, D. of, 1695, 1702, 04, 06, 07, 10
Vernon, Adm. 1740
Vesuvius, Mount, 1633
Vienna besieged, 1683
Villars, Mareschal, 1702, 04, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13
Villeroi, Mareschal of, 1693, 95, 1701, 05, 06
- Uniformity*, act of, 1662
Union of Scotland, 1704
- Utrecht*, conference open at, 1712-13—advantages of the Treaty of, *ib.*
- Wager*, Adm. 1726-27
Wales, Prince of, goes to Paris, 1646—takes the command of the fleet, which declared for the king, and sailed to Holland, 48
Wallingford Party, 1659
Waller, Edmund, 1643
Waller, Sir William, one of the best generals of the Parliament, 1643-44
Walpole, Robert, 1712, 15, 17—effects a reconciliation between the K. and the P. of Wales, 20, 23, 27-28 29-30-31-32-33-34, 39 — accusation against, in both houses — his answer completely justificative, 41—his power declines, *ib.*—P. of Wales declares strongly against him, 42—is created E. of Orford, and resigns, *ib.*—a vote for an inquiry into his conduct during the last ten years, *ib.* — his death, 51
Walpole, Horatio, minister in Holland, 1739, 41
Wandewash, 1759-60
War with Spain, 1625—with the Dutch 1652—with Spain 1555—with the Dutch 1665 —with France, 66 — with Holland, 72 — renewed in France by the Huguenots, 1625 — declared against France, 1689 — declared against France on the same day at Vienna, London and the Hague, 1702—declared against Spain, and pro-

- claimed in England and in France, 18—rekindled all over the continent, 1734—declared by England against Spain, 39—between England and France begins again without being declared, 55—at last proclaimed by England, 56
- War*, civil, 1643
- Warren*, rear Adm. 1747
- Warwick*, 1648
- Washington*, Col. 1754
- Weights* and measures regulated, 1759
- Weissenburg* lines forced, 1705
- Wentworth*, Sir Thomas, 1625-30
- Westphalia* ravaged, 1761
- Wharton*, L. 1677, 89, 1707—D. of, 26
- Whigs*, 1680, 89, 90, 93, 1702, 05, 06, 08, 09, 13, 14
- Wight*, the Isle of, 1647—a mutiny in favour of the K. *ib.*
- Willis*, Sir Richard, a spy of Cromwell, 1659
- Wilmot*, Lord, 1643, 5
- Wirtemberg*, P. of, 1692
- Whitehall*, Monk takes his lodgings at, 1660—the Dutch guards take possession of all the posts at, 88, 98
- Withers*, Sir Thomas, 1680
- Windham*, Francis, 1661
- Wirtemberg*, Duchy, P. of, 1706
- Wit*, de, 1668, 70, 72
- Woodstock*, manor of, granted to the D. of Marlborough, 1705
- Wolfe*, General, 1758—his glorious death, 59—a remarkable instance of the people's sympathy towards his mother, *ib.*
- Wool Act*, for burying in, 1678
- Worcester*, Bish. of, 1702
- Worms*, 1713
- Wyndham*, Sir William, 1730—his speech in the house of commons respecting the secession of the opposition, 39
- York*, Charles I. retires to, with his two sons, where he finds himself supported by a considerable party, and issues proclamations against usurpations of the commons—levies a guard of 600 men for the king, 1642—surrenders to Fairfax, 44
- Yorke*, Philip. See Hardwicke, Gen. Min. Plen. 1761

